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MONTANA FUTURES:

A SURVEY OF CITIZEN CHOICES*

May 15, 1977

Prepared by:

Statistical Center
Montana State University
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for

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Hon. Thomas L. Judge,
Governor

Michael G. Billings,
Director

John S. Fitzpatrick,
Research Manager

*Supported in part by funds from the Montana Department of Community Affairs, Old West Commission.

INTRODUCTION,

SAMPLE METHODOLOGY AND RELIABILITY

INTRODUCTION

The Montana Futures Study was initiated by Governor Judge to provide for public input into policy and planning alternatives for the future of Montana. This opportunity to have a direct voice in shaping the future of Montana at the administrative level of state government is intended to bring the people closer to their government and to improve overall quality of life.

The public survey portion of the Futures Study was contracted by the Statistical Center at Montana State University under the direction of Dr. Kenneth Tiahrt. This survey was designed to provide an initial broad identification of issues which residents of Montana feel are most important. It also provides general information concerning the public perception of various branches of local, state, and federal government and the sectors in which their responsibilities lie. Exact delineation of some alternatives and the related public posture will of necessity depend on various followup processes. Public hearings or forums, surveys specific to certain areas, occupations, or ages, etc. will be useful in providing continuing detailed public input.

SAMPLE FRAME AND METHODOLOGY

A statewide randomly drawn sample of 5100 persons received the questionnaire by mail. The sample was drawn from the list of private individuals owning motor vehicles in Montana. The questionnaire was constructed with the aid of various departments in state government and university specialists from social, biological, and physical sciences. The principal reference for areas of interest was Governor Judge's 1975 State of the State address.

A reminder postcard was mailed to all 5100 persons ten days after the initial mailing of the questionnaire. Over 1500 responses were received with an overall return rate of almost exactly 30%.

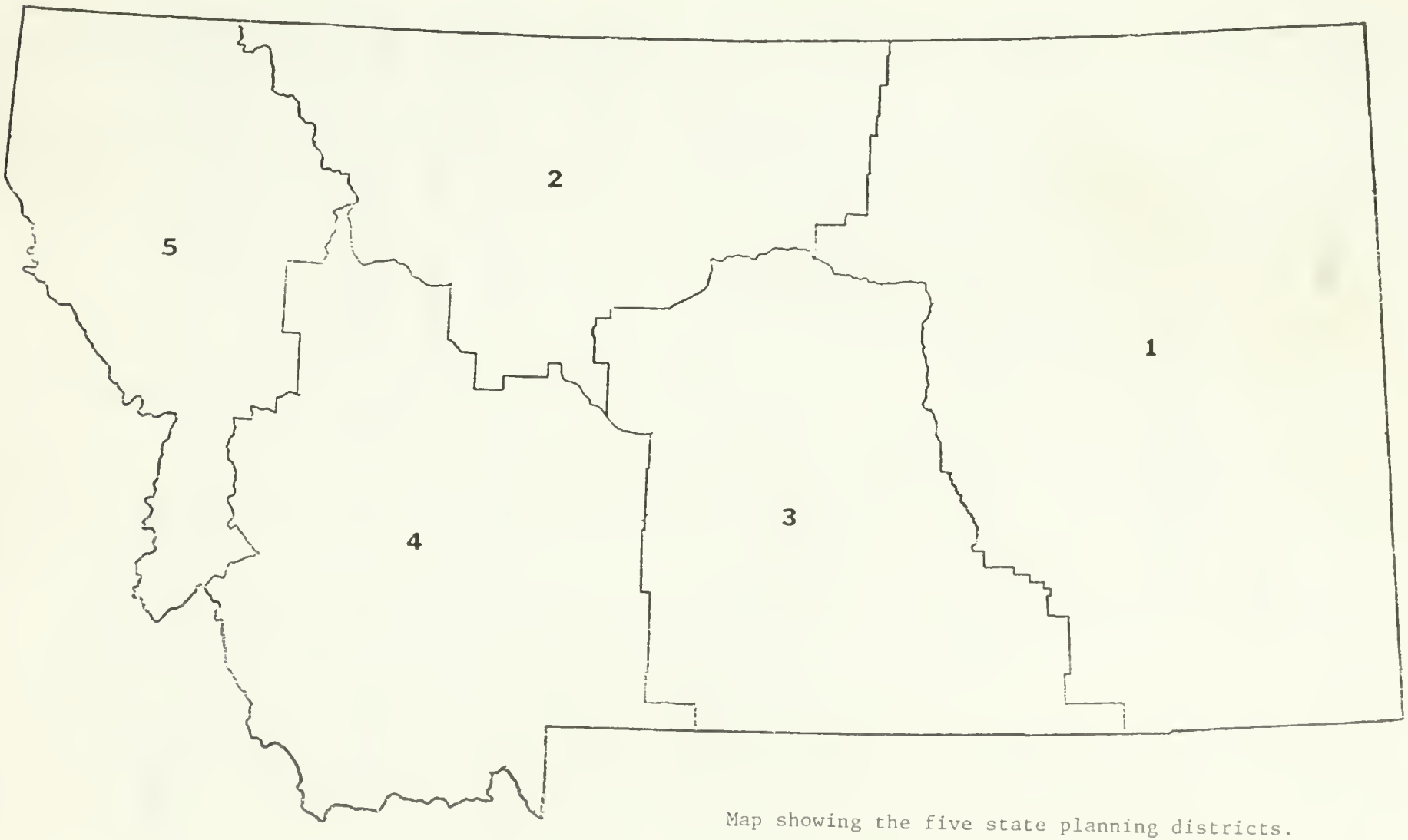
An indication of how well the sample represents the entire statewide population may be obtained by comparing demographic characteristics of the sample to available census data for the state. Throughout this report sample results are reported for males as solid columns and for females as outlined columns. In each case the sample percentage of respondents for a given category of response is given at the top of each column. The identification system to the left of each graph may be matched to the questionnaire reprinted in appendix A. Greater numbers of males than females completed the survey questionnaire; however, the geographic distribution of both males and females responding was very good. The following table shows how closely the survey responses followed the geographic distribution of the state population. It also indicates that approximately 3/4 of the respondents in each region were male.

	District				
	1	2	3	4	5
Population as a percent of the state total	13	21	19	24	22
Percent of survey responses from district	13	17	22	25	23
Percent of males responding from district	12	18	22	24	24
Percent of females responding from district	15	15	22	26	22
Percent of males responding on survey	74	80	77	76	78
Percent of females responding on survey	26	20	23	24	22

Survey figures show a larger percentage of suburbanites than is given by 1970 census figures. However, census designations for suburban areas are very restrictive and may not match the public definition of Montana residents.

	Urban	Suburban	Rural
State	46	7	47
Survey	39	18	43

Data is in percent of total.



Map showing the five state planning districts.

Within each district, the survey percentages are as follows:

	District				
	1	2	3	4	5
Urban	29	44	45	50	26
Suburban	11	14	21	14	26
Rural	60	42	34	36	48

The total state population is 694400 of which 63% or 437500 persons are 18 years of age or older. Persons in the 26-45 year age group and those 66 and older were correctly represented in the survey. Young adults (18 to 25) were somewhat under represented, and mature adults (46-65) were similarly over represented.

	Age Group			
	18-25	26-45	46-65	66 and older
State	19	35	32	14
Survey	8	37	42	13

Census figures do not record occupations by classification which allow for comparisons with the survey or are particularly meaningful for the information desired. The occupational classifications and responses of the survey do, however, give a good picture of the various occupations pursued by Montanans and the extent to which each group was represented in the survey.

Occupation	Percent of survey responses
Housewife	10
Student	3
Retired	16
Labor	14
Agriculture	16
Business	13
Government	6
Professional and Technical	19
Forestry, Mining, and Natural Resources	3

SAMPLE RELIABILITY AND CONFIDENCE LEVELS

The responses to the survey have been summarized in numerical values as percentages which reflect the viewpoint of the statewide population. These numerical values are only estimates of the true state of nature and do not give completely precise information about the entire population.

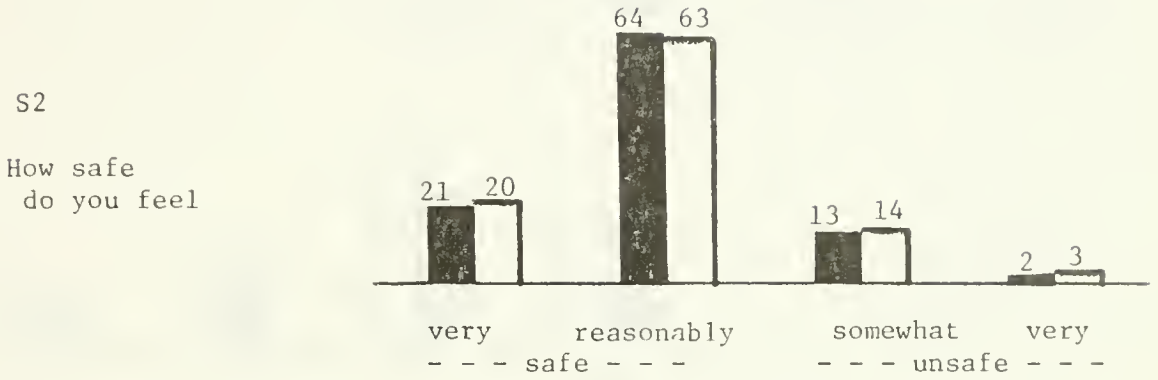
When it is reported that a certain percentage of persons responding to the survey favor a certain issue, the immediate concern is how closely this sample value is to the true (but unknown) real world value. For the Montana Futures Survey a statistical analysis of the total number of respondents and the possible percentages was conducted. This analysis indicates that about 95 out of 100 times, the reported percentage for the entire sample or for males will differ from the true population value by no more than 3%. For females alone this failure to match the true state of nature will be less than 5% since fewer women responded.

This report should be read and interpreted with these measures of precision in mind. Thus if more than 53% of the sample respondents favor a certain issue, one can be nearly certain that the entire population would favor the issue. Of course a higher sample estimate indicates a larger majority in the population. When two estimates are nearly equal, the results are "too close to call", meaning that the actual population difference is so small that the sample will not detect it with certainty.

SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Persons in Montana generally feel safe from criminal actions in their surroundings.

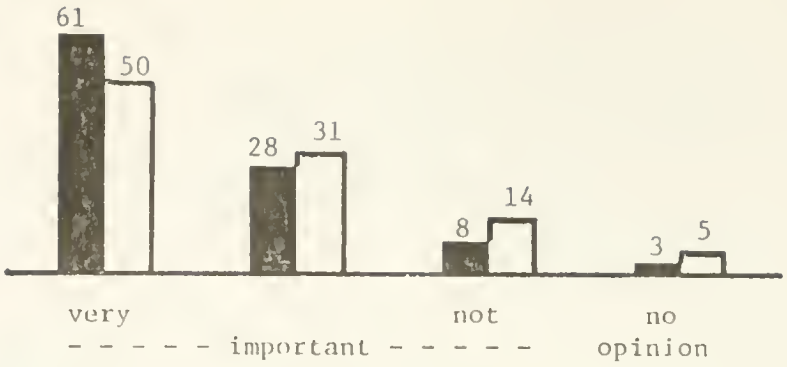


No significant differences were observed in feelings of safety for urban, suburban, or rural residents although rural people felt slightly more safe. Elderly persons (over 65) exhibited a greater tendency to feel somewhat unsafe than did younger individuals although the difference was not significant.

In a manner characteristic of the western frontier, over 75% of the Montanan's surveyed gave high priority to "quick and sure punishment, including capitol punishment" as a criminal correction method. They also overwhelmingly considered longer jail sentences to be an important measure in dealing with future crime rates. Equally large numbers of respondents rated gun control as not important. Responses related to methods of dealing with future crime rates have been ranked below in order of priority. In addition to longer jail sentences, consolidation of law enforcement units and hiring more enforcement personnel were considered to be important countermeasures for rising crime rates.

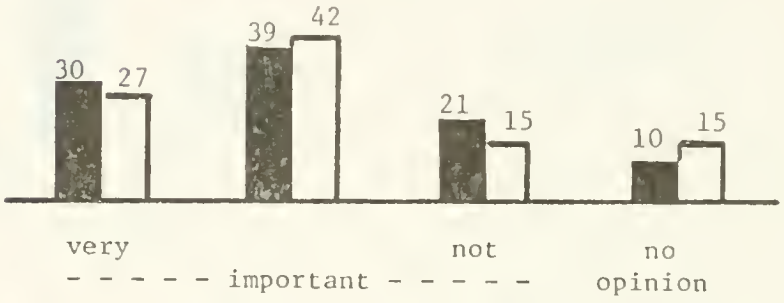
S1A

Longer jail sentences



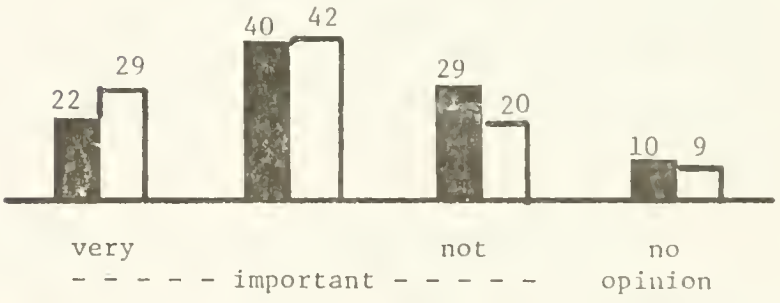
S1D

Consolidate law enforcement



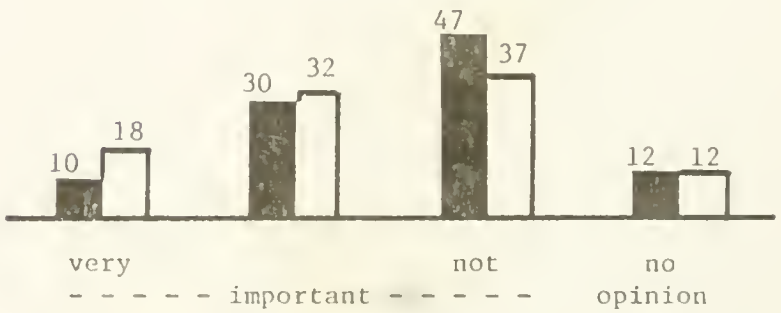
S1E

Hire more personnel



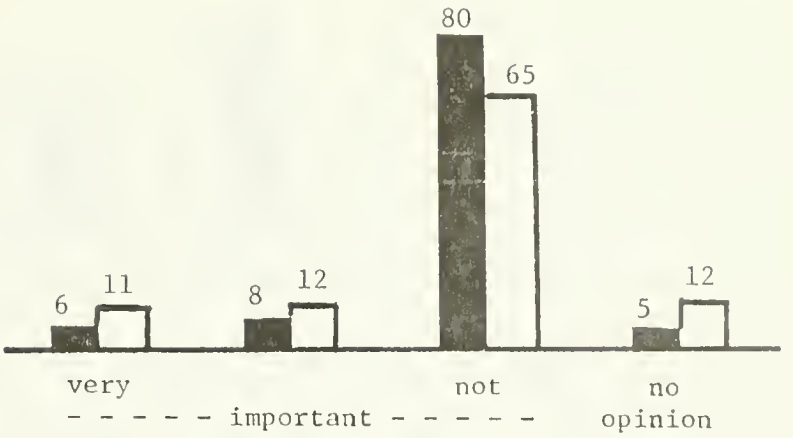
S1C

Decentralize penal system



S1B

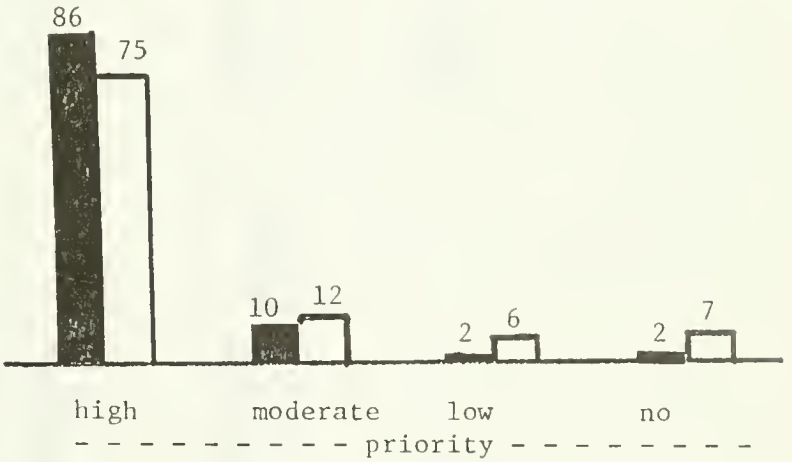
Strong gun control



Correctional strategies for treating criminal offenders show a wide range of responses. A distinct change from high to moderate priority occurs between third and fourth ranked strategies below. Ranking was accomplished by using simple weighted scores.

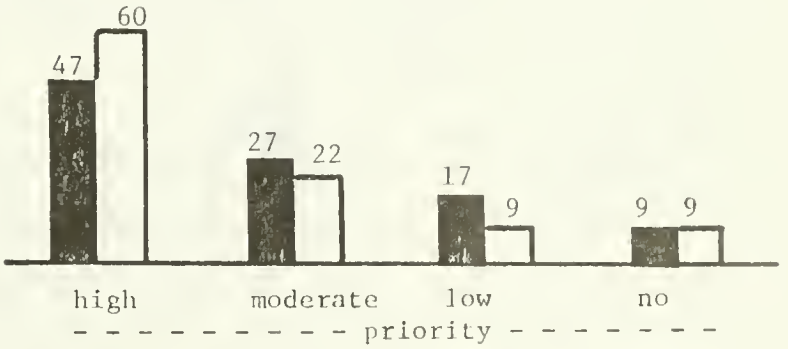
S4B

Quick and sure punishment



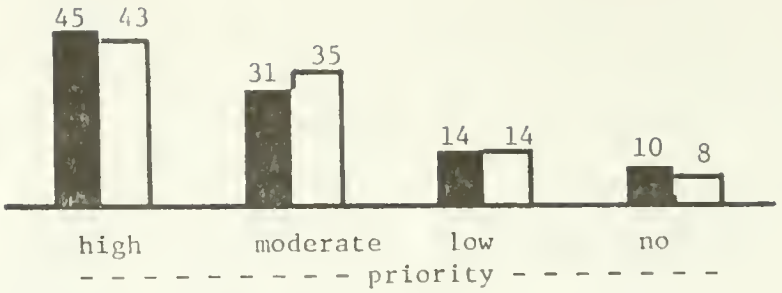
S4F

Reduce social causes



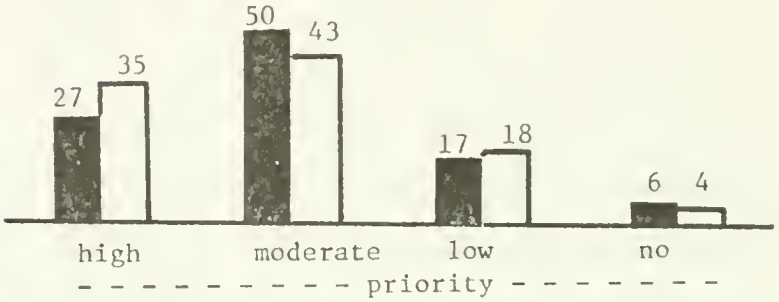
S4D

Repay victims



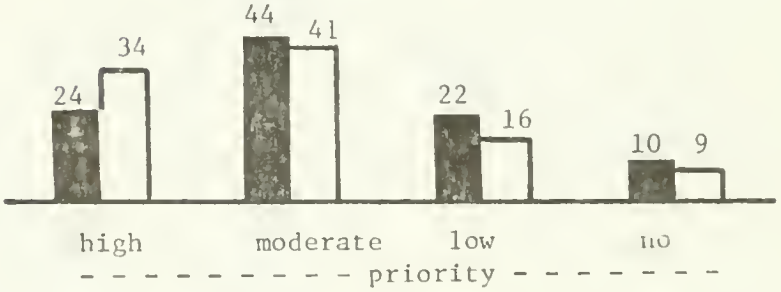
S4C

Help offenders adjust



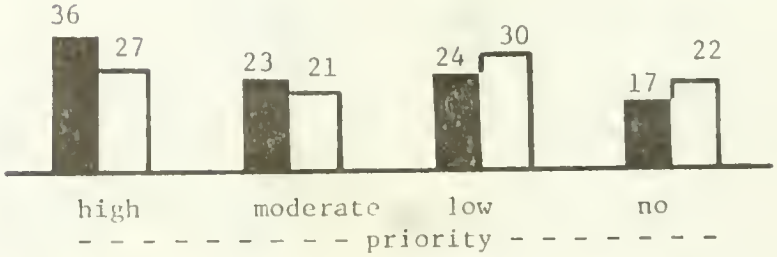
S4A

Educate offenders



S4E

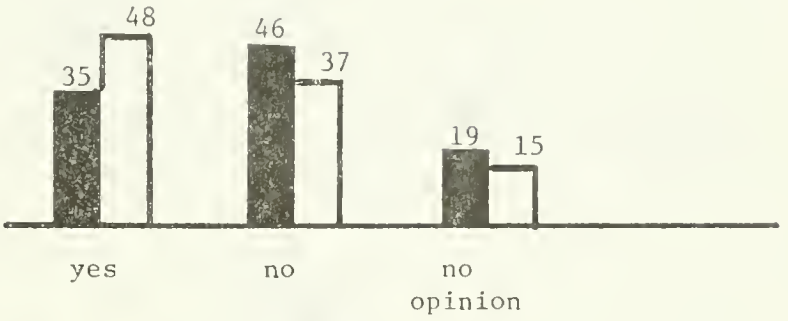
Isolate violators



Provision of health clinics and subsidies for medical doctors in rural areas by the state is favored by women and rejected by men when examined on a statewide basis. It might be expected that rural persons would favor these items more than urban and suburban; however, this was not the case. This lack of interest is perhaps due to the independent nature of rural residents and their disdain of a program which might appear to them to be a form of welfare.

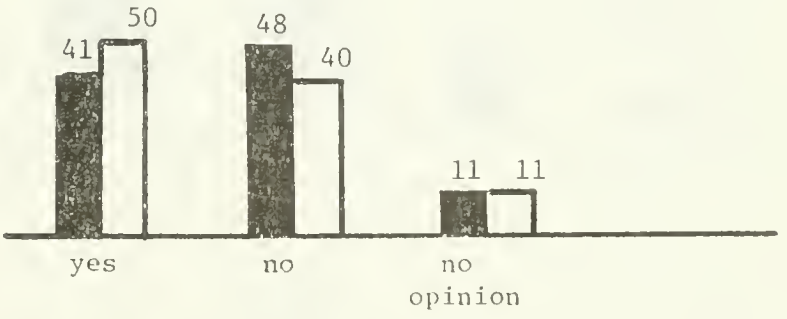
S3A

Provide health clinics



S3B

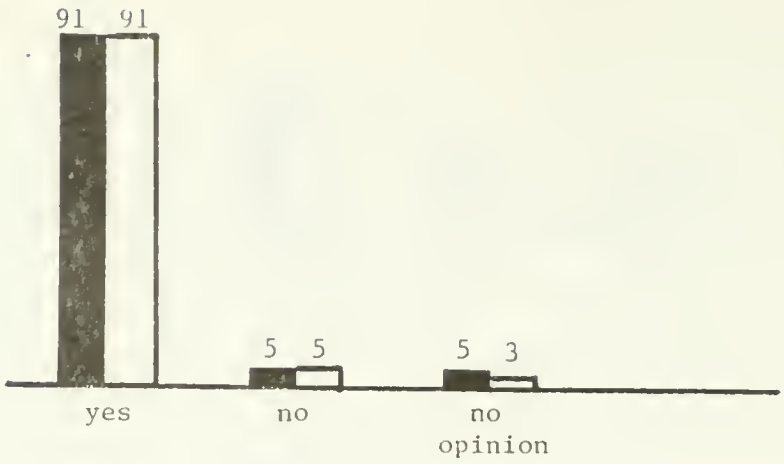
Subsidize medical doctors



Nearly everyone believes that emergency vehicles should be manned by persons trained and certified in emergency medical procedures. This medical service benefits all sectors of society and existing services receive a great deal of public visibility.

S3C

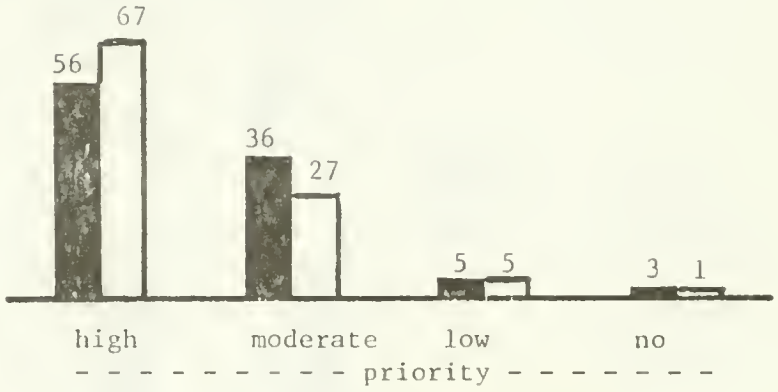
Have certified medical training



All programs for the treatment of mentally ill or incompetent persons were supported as priority items except for institutionalization. Possibly this represents only an attunement to current social trends. Further explanation of a committment to these programs should include information concerning cost comparisons, success rates, etc.

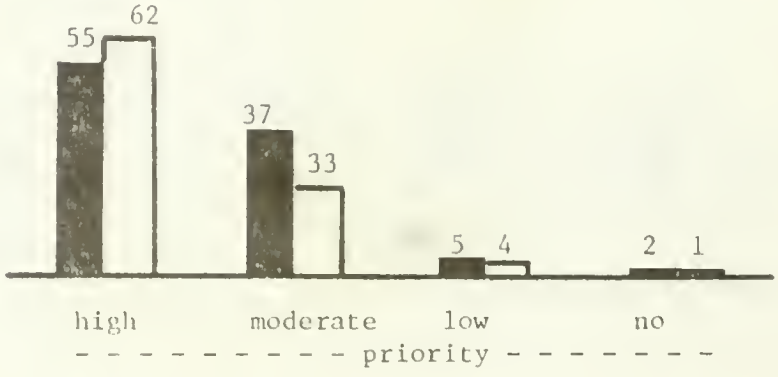
S5A

Community services



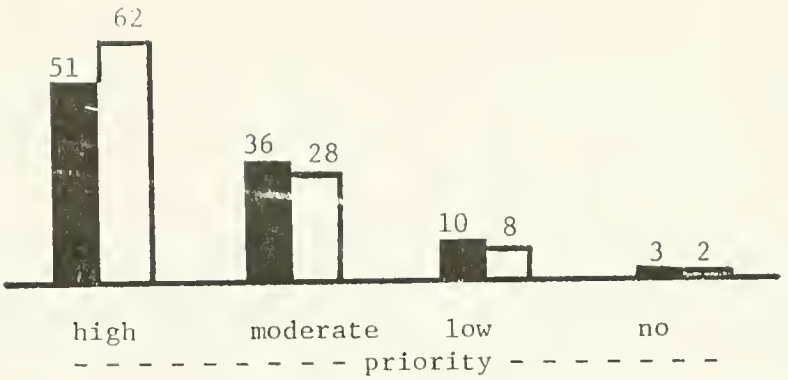
S5B

Educate incompetent



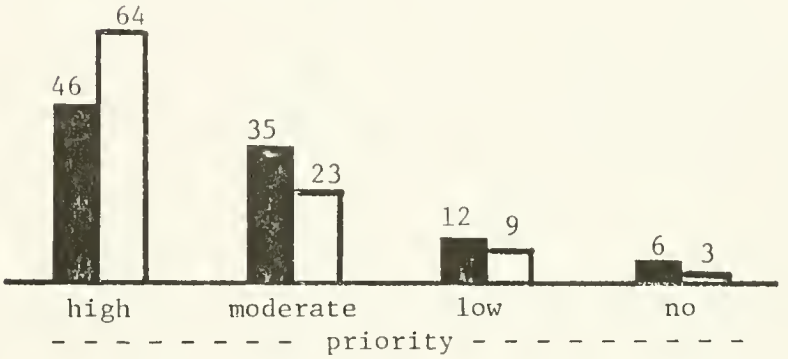
S5C

Guidance programs



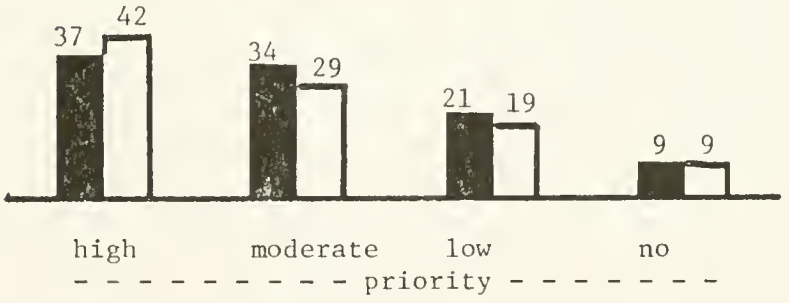
S5E

Prepare communities



S5D

Institutionalize persons



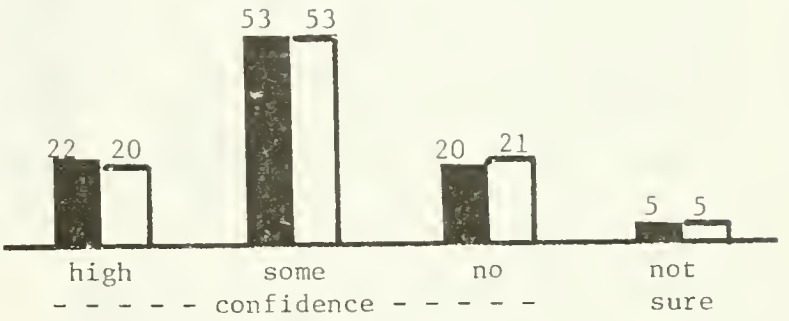
GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Most people have confidence that governmental units fairly represent their interests; however, there are some subtle and interesting differences in ratings. Overall the Governor inspires the greatest confidence, and this may be due (at least in part) to the survey itself which has been proclaimed as an instrument to provide the citizen a voice in Montana's future.

G1A

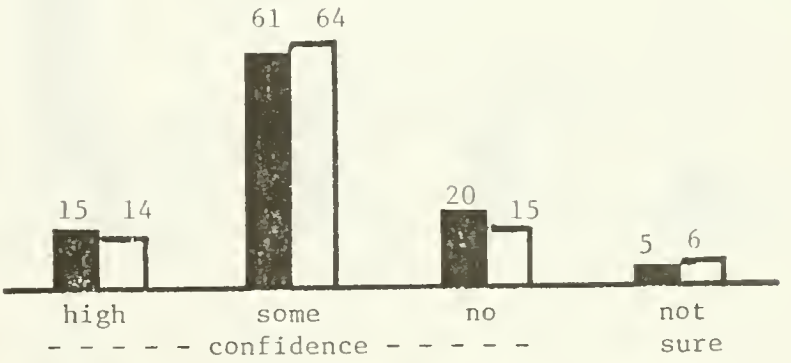
The Governor



County and city governments and the state legislature are very similar, possibly because they are generally well known to and dependent on relatively small constituencies.

G1E

County government

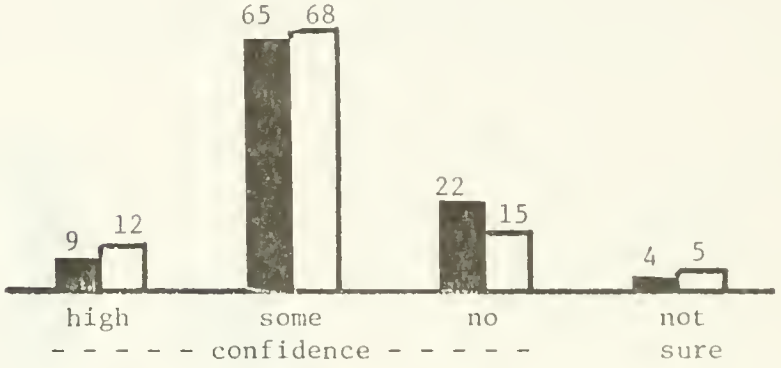


G1F

City government

G1B

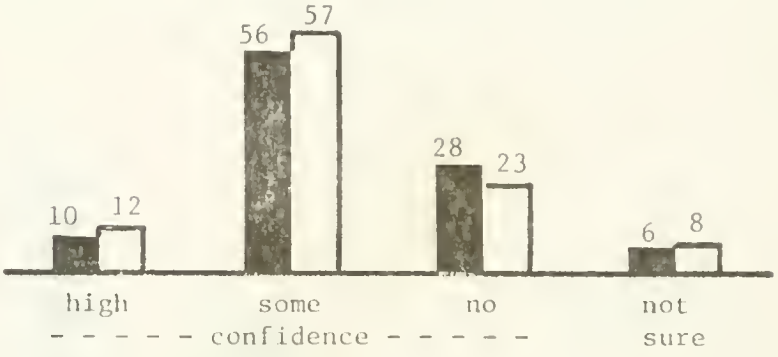
The state legislature



State courts and agencies received somewhat lower ratings, and this could be expected based on their relative isolation from the feelings and desires of the public.

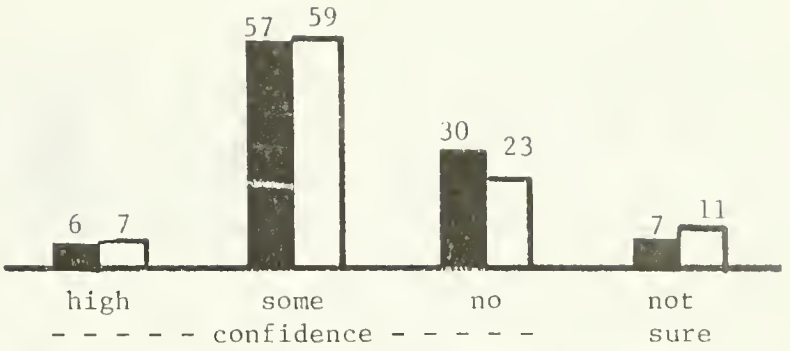
G1C

State courts



G1D

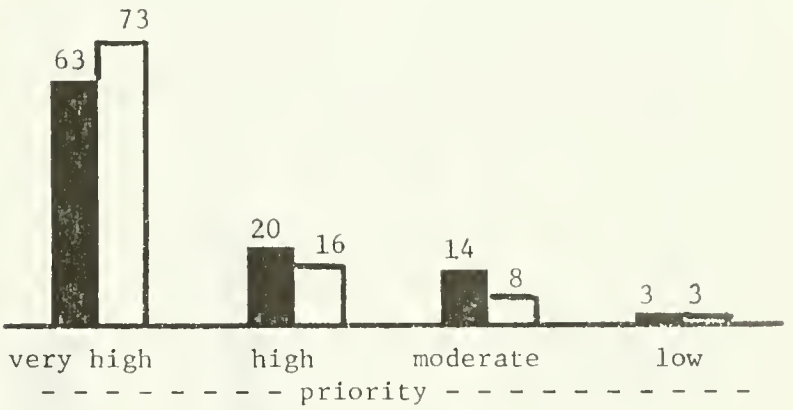
State agencies



Montanans clearly feel that legislators should give high priority to the opinions of their constituents. Use of a legislator's best judgement is a very poor second followed by the advice of special interest groups. Only rarely should party leaders be followed in voting on legislation.

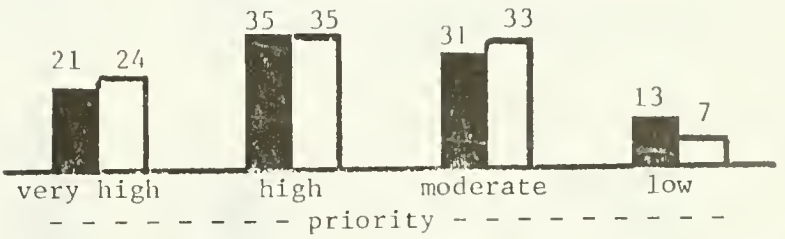
G2A

Opinions of the people



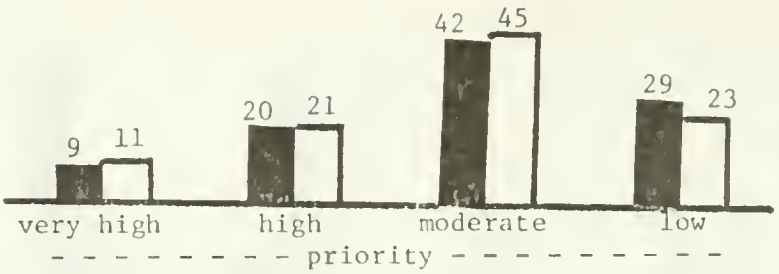
G2C

Judgment



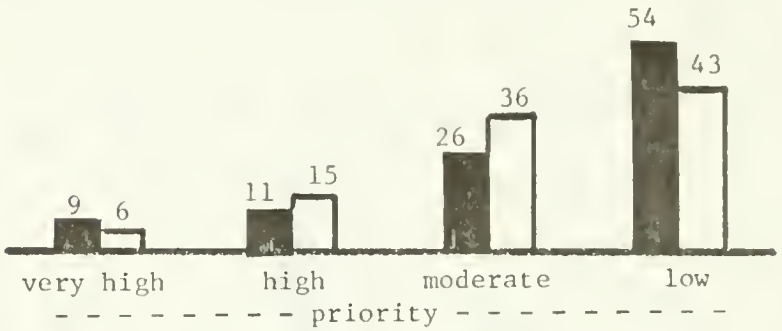
G2B

Interest groups



G2D

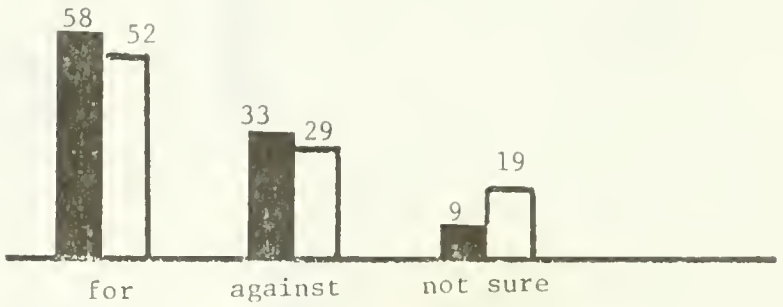
Party leaders



The Montana public prefers tax breaks to business over make work programs as a means of reducing unemployment. There is no consensus for or against creating a state land use agency or for mandatory city and county planning.

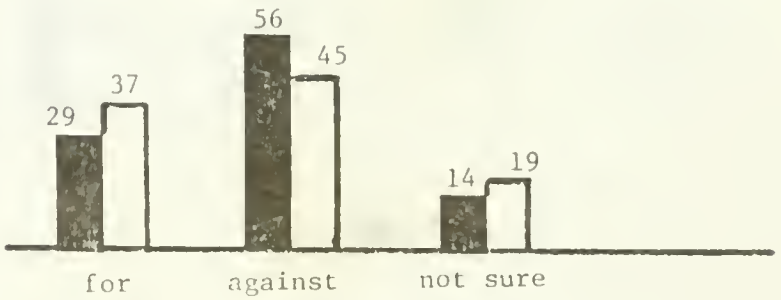
G3B

Tax breaks to private businesses



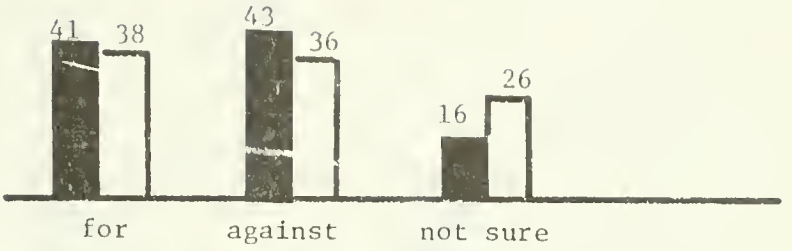
G3A

Temporary public jobs



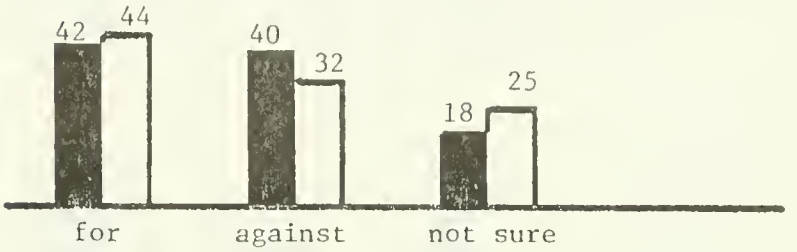
G3C

Create state land use agency



G3G

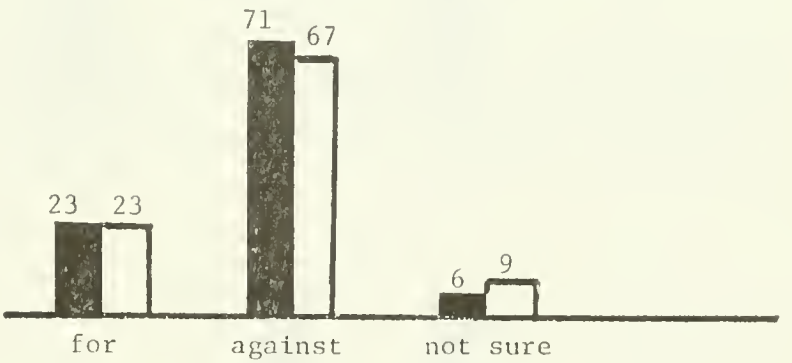
City county land use planning



A strong 3 to 1 opposition to a state sales tax was indicated by the respondents. This is a strong historical stand and may be only an indication of a lack of comparative information on alternatives. Possibly public input on selective sales taxes on certain goods or services should be sought as well.

G3D

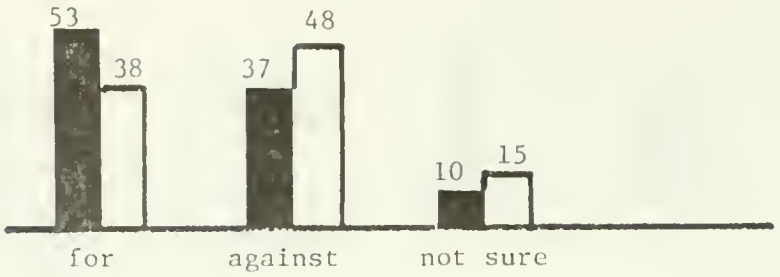
State sales tax



Statewide, public access bills are favored but with less enthusiasm in regions 1 and 5 than in the other regions.

G3E

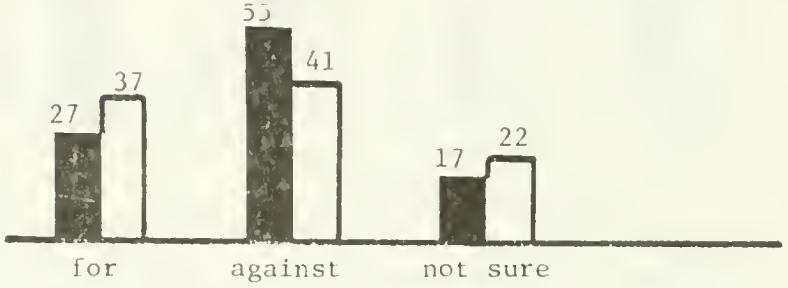
Public access for recreation



Montanan's are opposed to state supported public television.

G3F

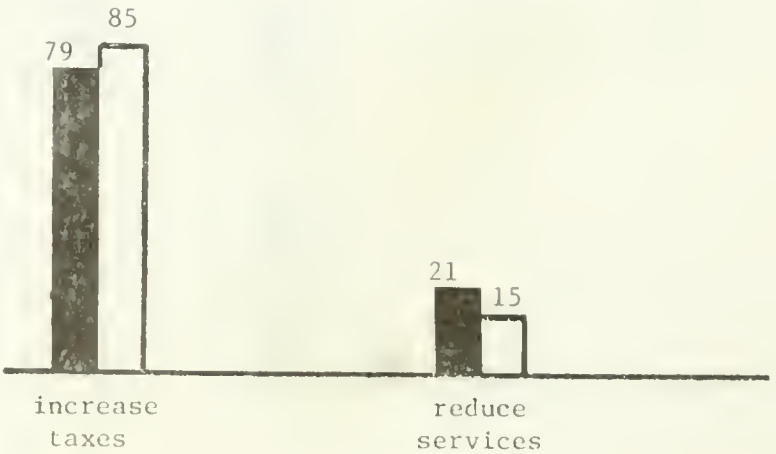
Public television



In general, a preference for higher taxes over reduced services was expressed first for law enforcement and secondly for road construction and maintenance. Region 1, however, gave first priority to roads. There was virtually no such preference expressed one way or the other for higher education, health, and social services. Reduction of services was prefered over raising taxes for recreational purposes.

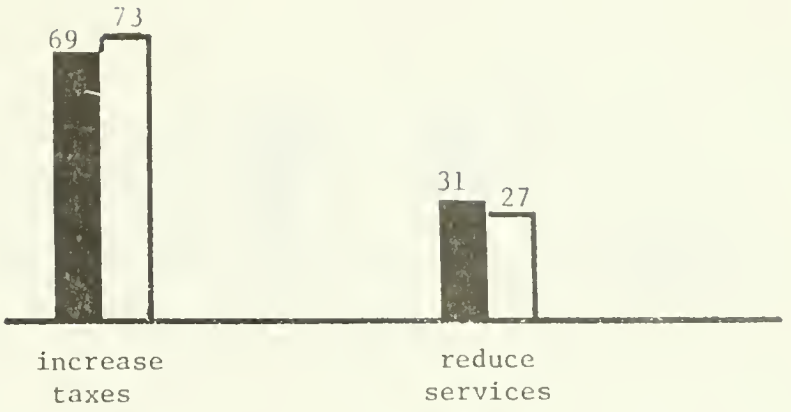
G4D

Law enforcement corrections



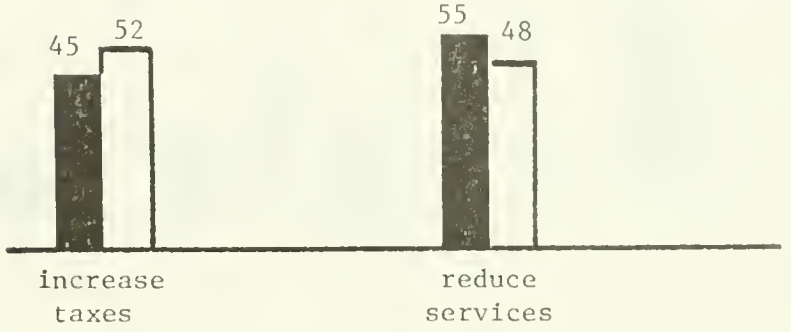
G4A

Road construction maintenance



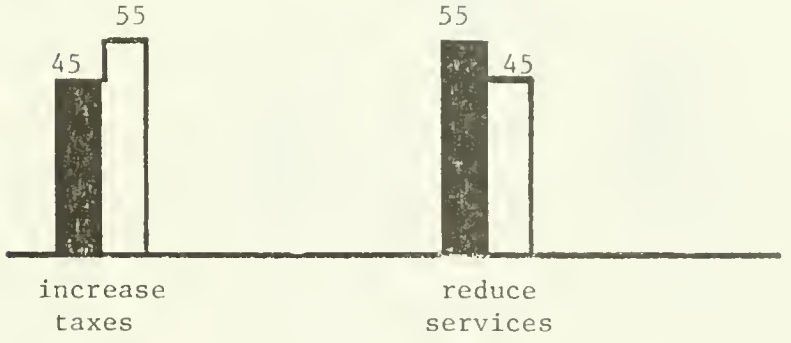
G4B

Higher education



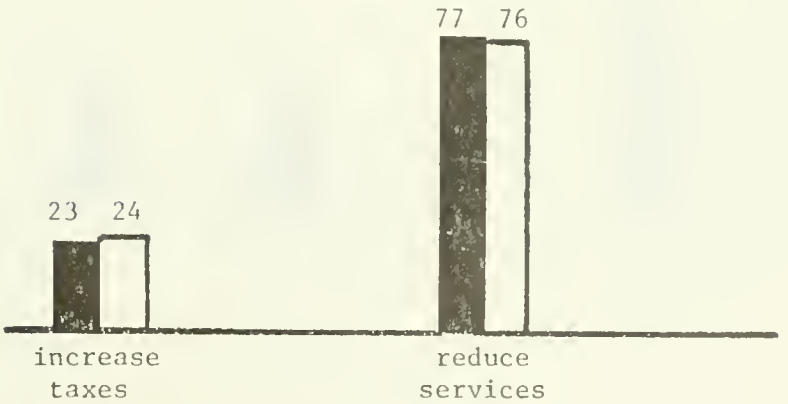
G4C

Social health services



G4E

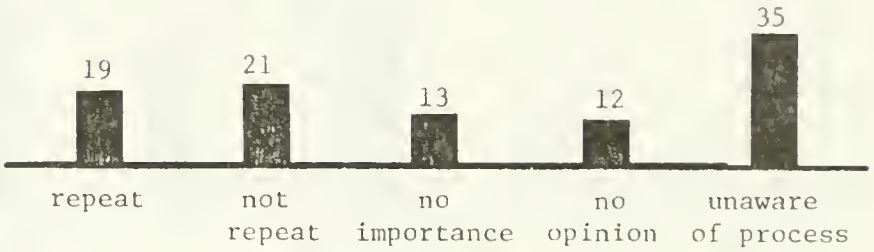
Recreational facilities service



About 1/3 of the respondents were unaware of the voter review process and less than 19% feel it should be repeated. In general, the responses indicate that it was not well received and would probably not need to be repeated for a long time.

G5

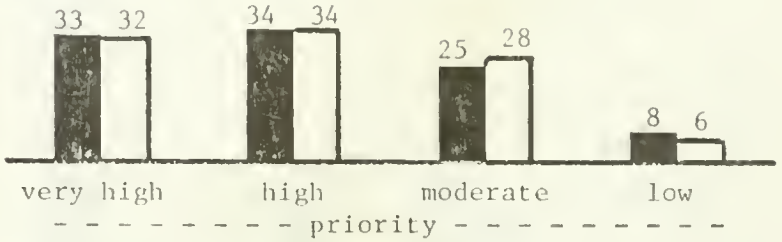
Voter review process



Priorities for financing local transportation needs with state funds were, in general, ranked in the following order: 1) arterial highways, 2) rural roads, 3) buses, 4) airports, and 5) bikeways. Region 1 gave higher priority to rural roads than did the other regions. Use of local or federal funds would of course not necessarily follow this same ordering.

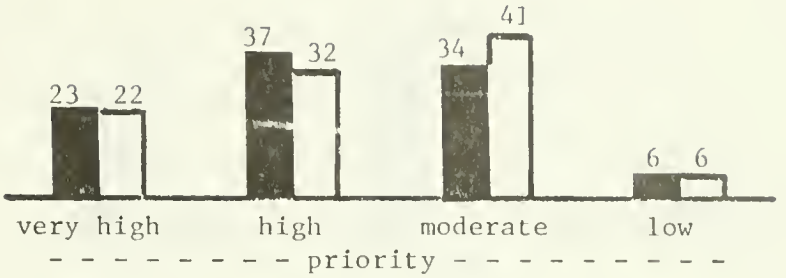
G6A

Arterial highways



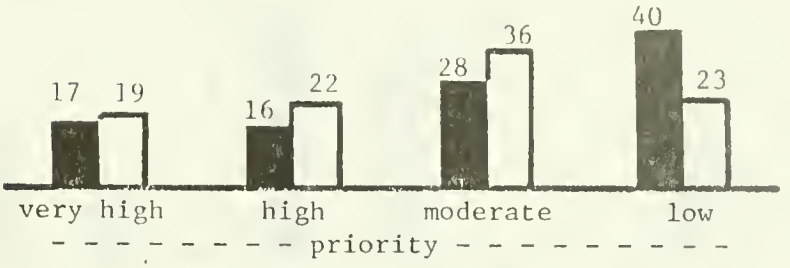
G6B

Rural roads



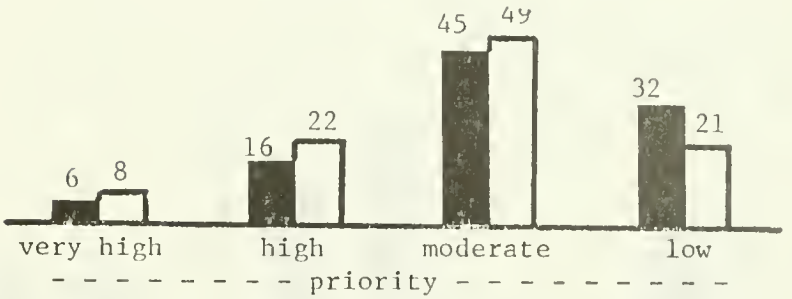
G6D

Local mass transit (buses)



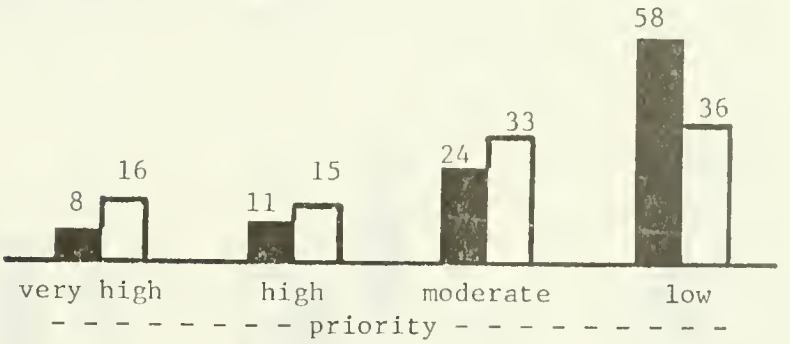
G6C

Airports



G6E

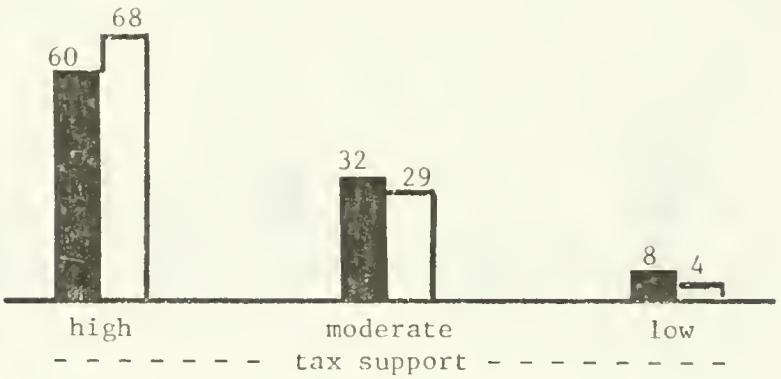
Bikeways



Priorities on tax support for public services rate police and fire protection first; health and sanitation second; library, parks, and recreation third; and welfare a low fourth. There appears to be a strong sentiment in Montana against welfare expenditures.

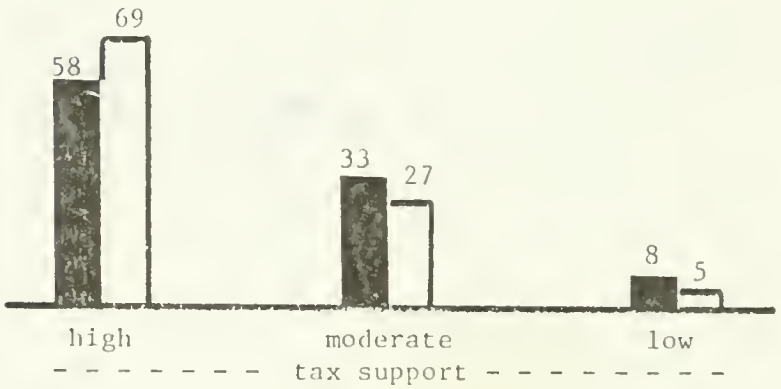
G7F

Police protection



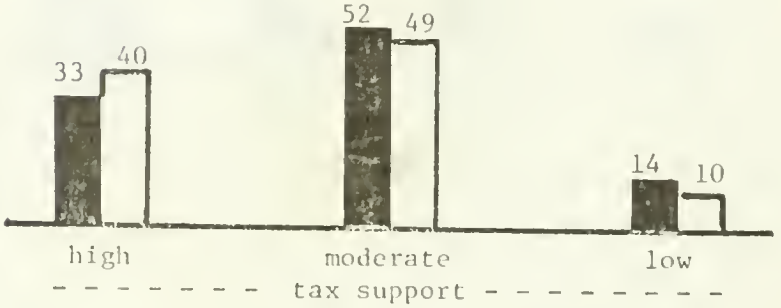
G7G

Fire protection



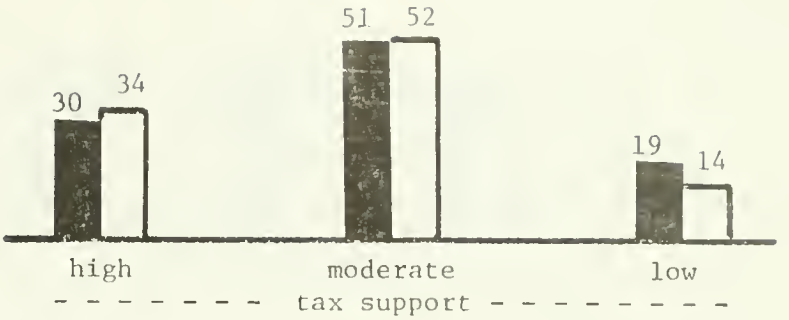
G7D

Health services



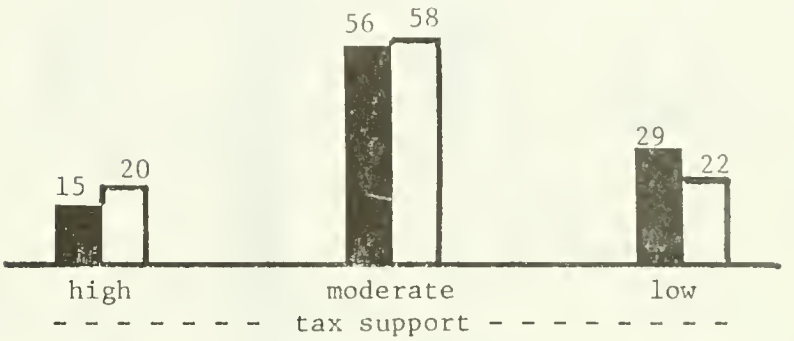
G7E

Sanitation services



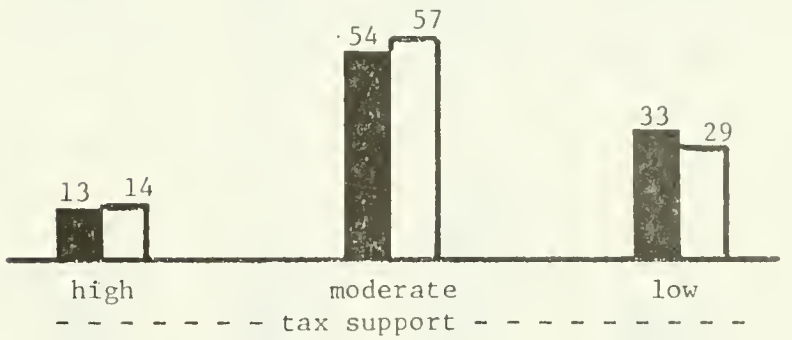
G7B

Library



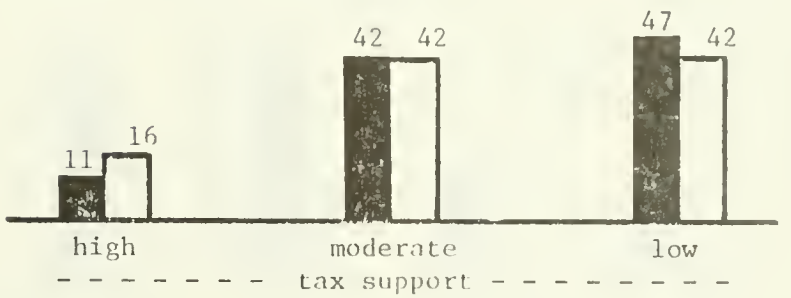
G7C

Parks and recreation



G7A

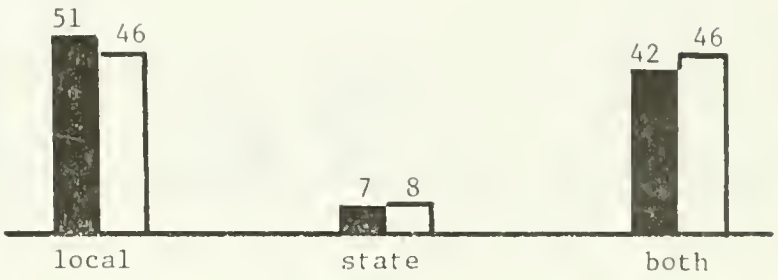
Welfare



Nearly equal numbers of people feel that, for controlling community problems, the balance between local and state control is about right or there should be more local control. Almost none favor expanding state control, which is consistent with low confidence expressed earlier in state agencies.

G8

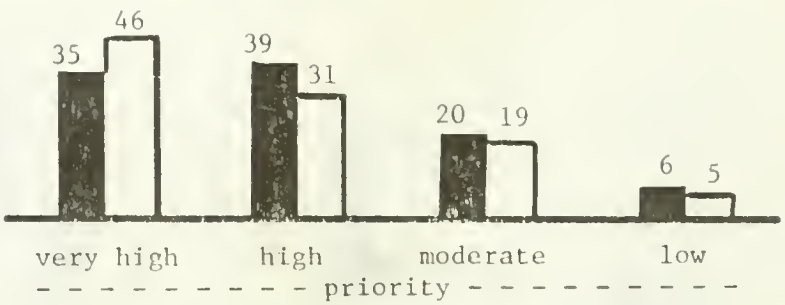
Balance between state and local government



In allocating federal aid to various programs, law enforcement and highways continue to receive high priority as they did for local funding. Education and conservation were rated higher than public employment and social services; recreation was rated quite last. Region 1 again gave higher priority to highways than did the remainder of the state.

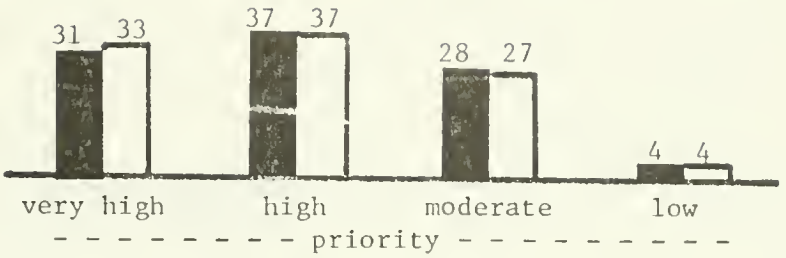
G9F

Law enforcement correction



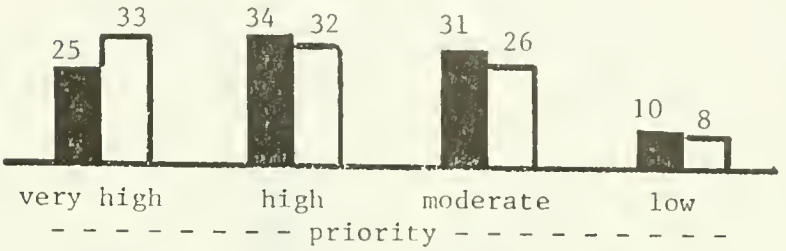
G9G

Highway construction maintenance



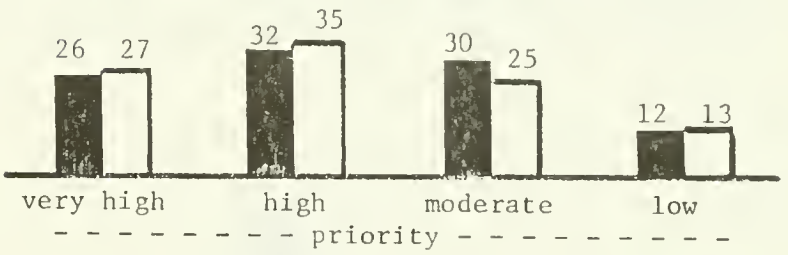
G9D

Public education



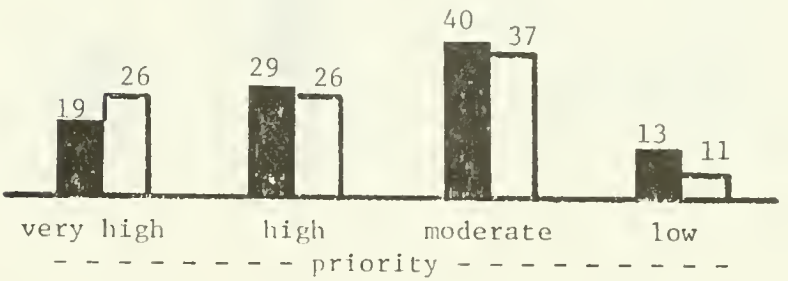
G9E

Conservation and resource development



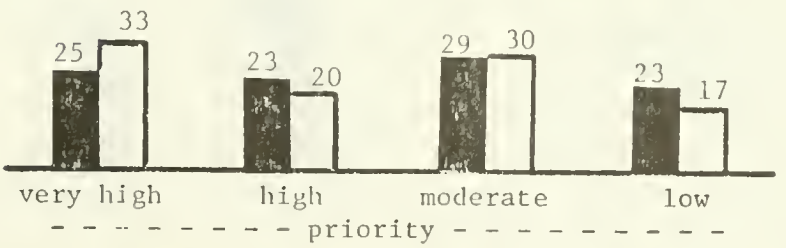
G9C

Social health services



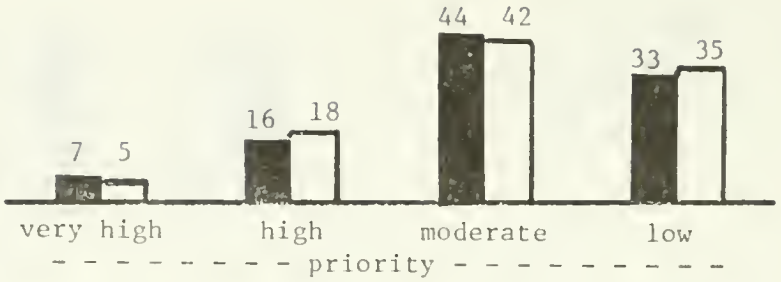
G9A

Public employment



G9B

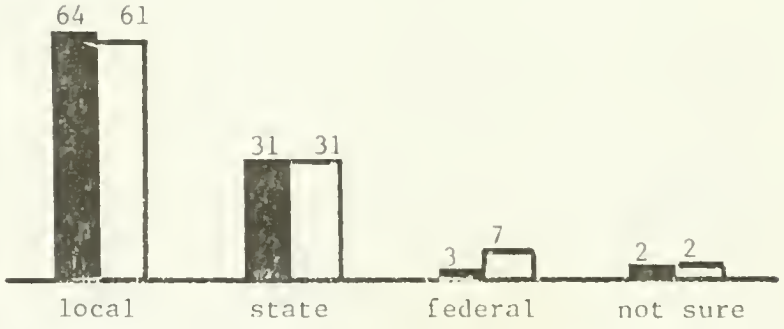
Recreation



Local government is favored for having responsibility for law enforcement, land use, and health and welfare. Region 5 favored this as applied to land use more strongly than did the other regions. State government is favored for responsibility for natural resource management and also for highways and roads. There is very little support for giving federal government major responsibility in these areas.

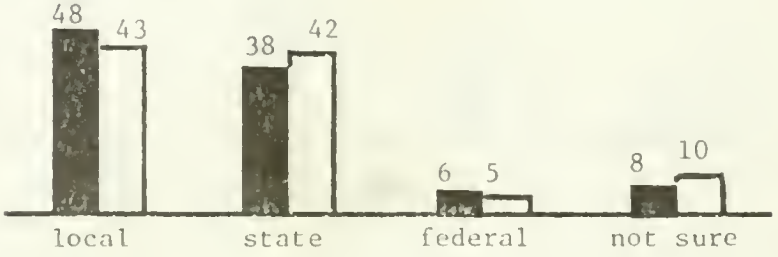
G10C

Law enforcement



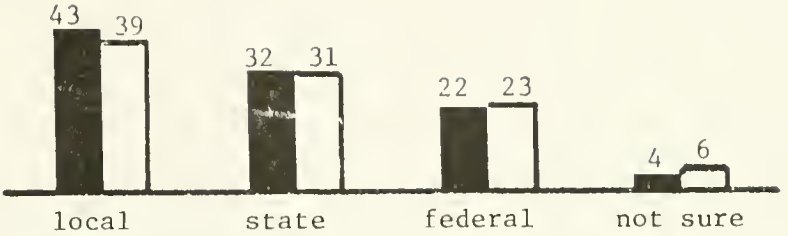
G10E

Land use planning and control



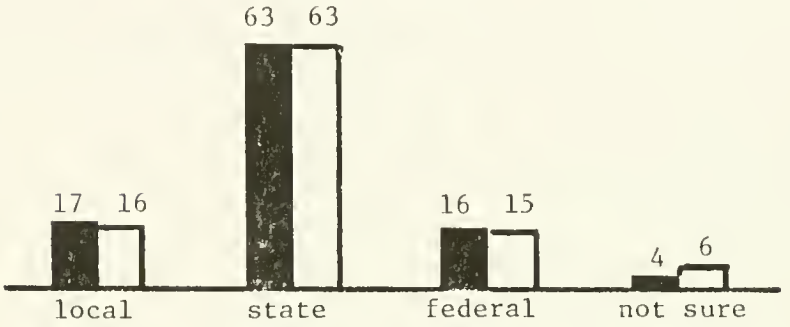
G10A

Health and welfare



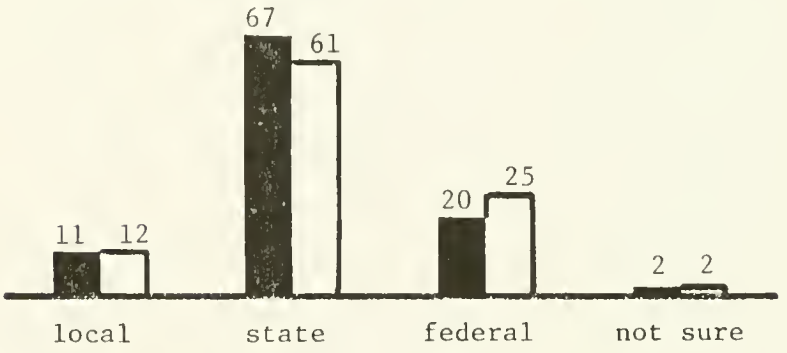
G10B

Natural resource management



G10D

Highways and roads



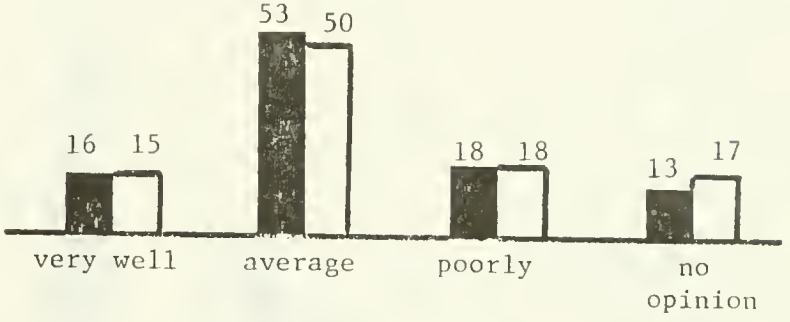
HIGHER EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION

The University system is rated as performing average or above in each of the areas in which it functions by well over half the respondents. Region 1 gave higher performance ratings/ than did the other regions, and the response from women in region 2 shows they desire more continuing education and community programs.

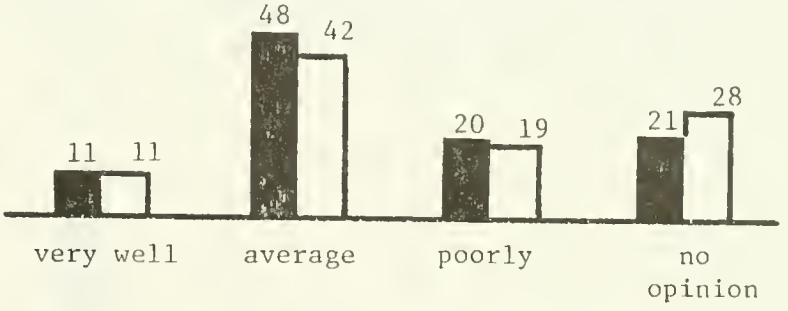
E1A

Instructing students



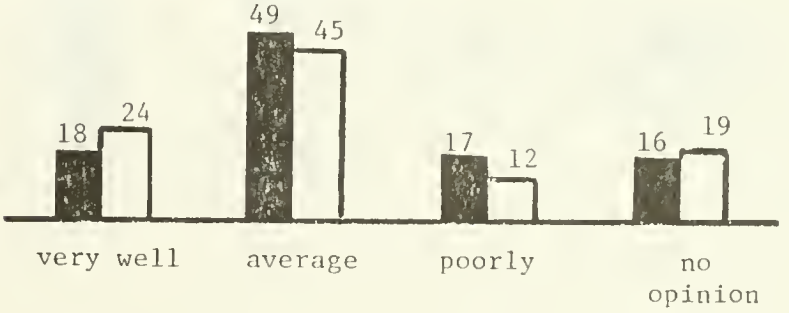
E1B

Conducting research



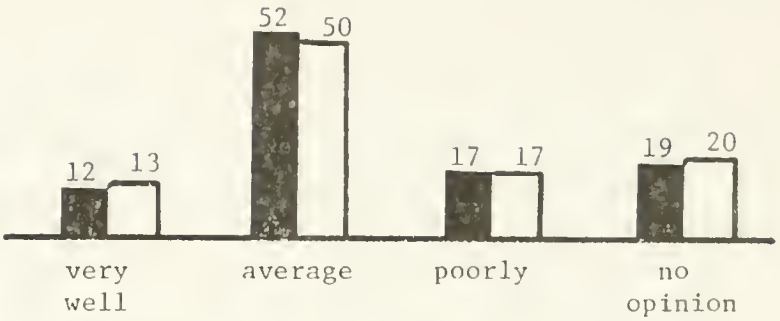
E1C

Public service



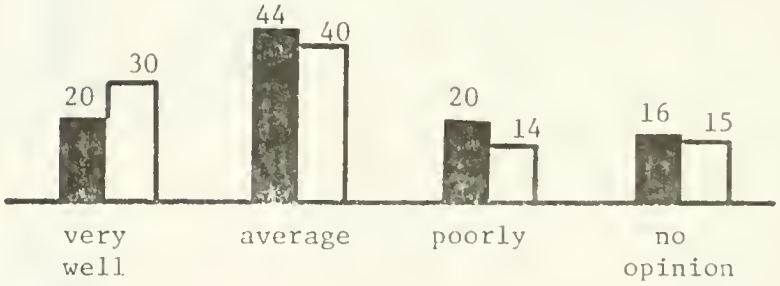
E1D

Quality programs



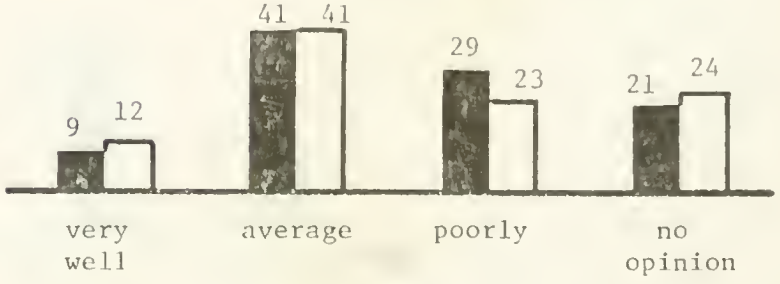
E1E

Continuing education



E1F

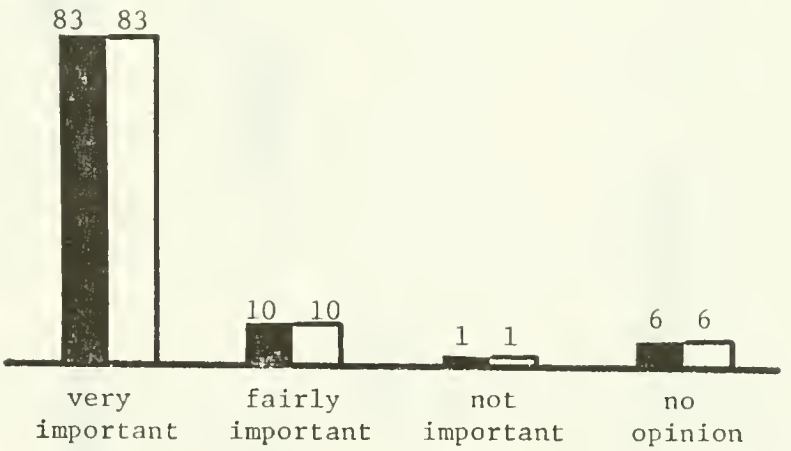
Personal interests



There is an overwhelming concensus of opinion that the instruction of students is the most important function of the University System. Quality programs were also highly valued and rated next in order of importance. Except for the intercollegiate athletic program, all of the other functions were rated important by over half of the respondents. It is instructive to note that women highly value continuing education and community programs.

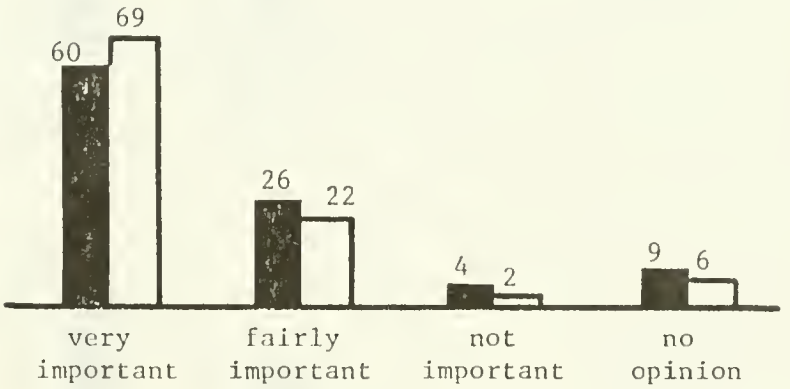
E2A

Instructing students



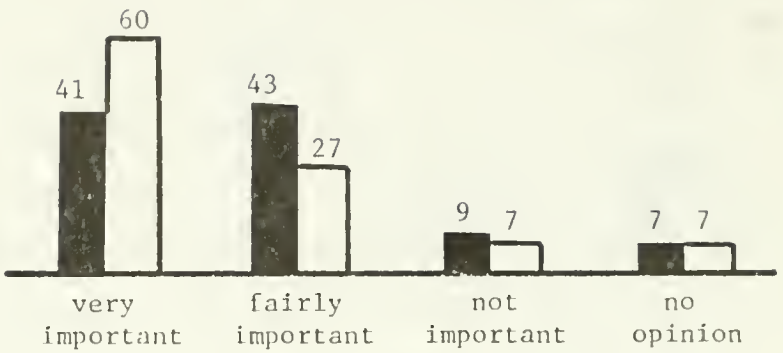
E2D

Quality programs



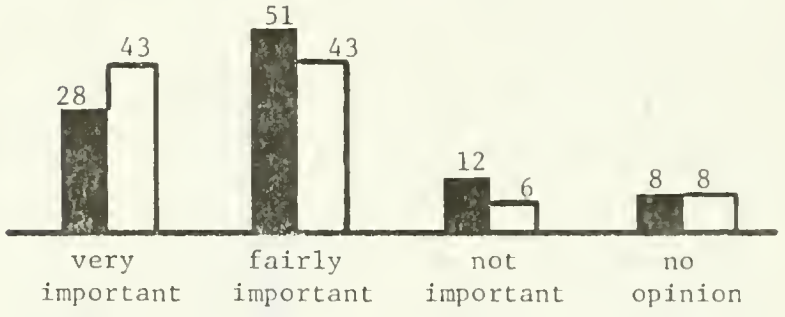
E2E

Continuing education



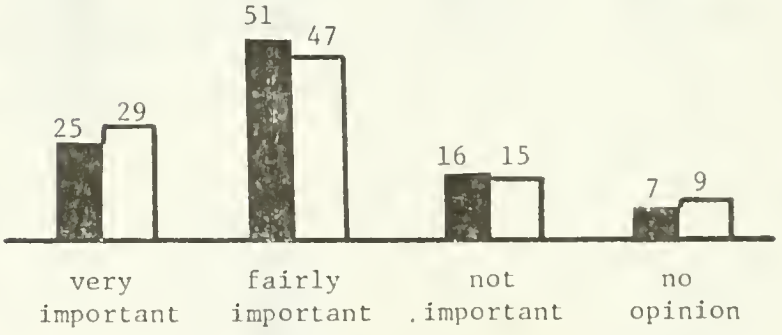
E2C

Public service



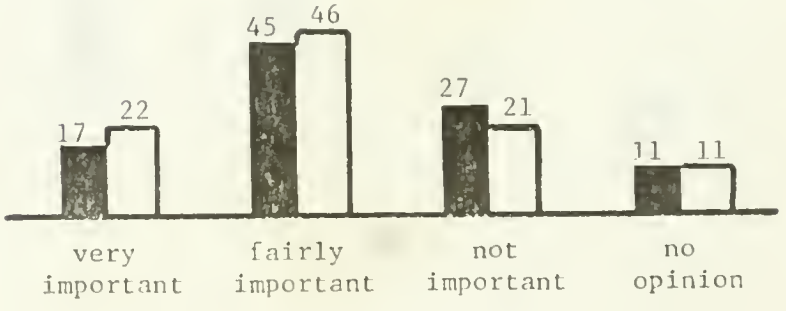
E2B

Conducting research



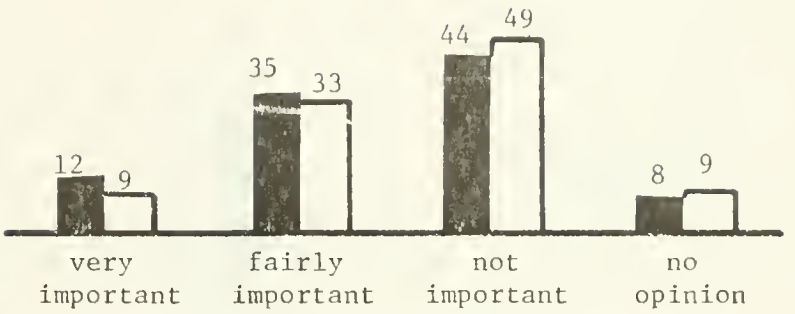
E2F

Personal interests



E2G

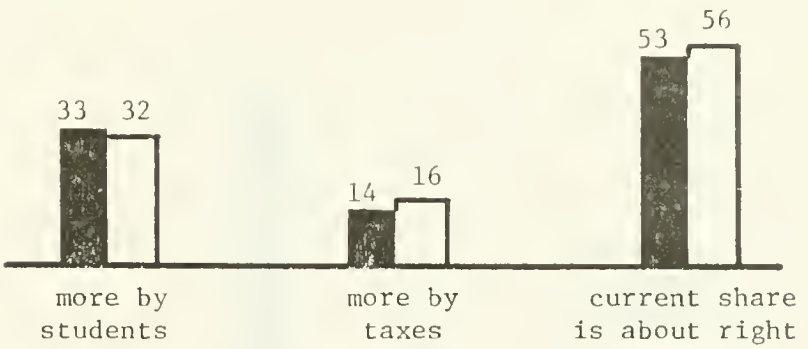
Intercollegiate athletic program



The general public feels that the students share of bearing the cost of higher education should be kept the same or increased. Only about 15% of the persons would decrease the students share by raising taxes.

E3

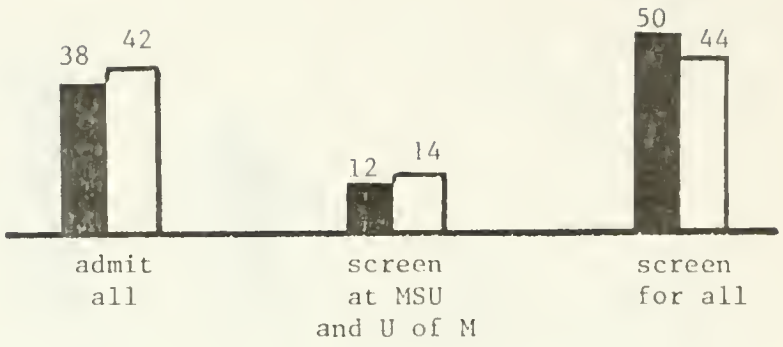
Costs of higher education



People generally do not favor a screening for admissions procedure applied only to the universities at Bozeman and Missoula. A screening procedure should either be applied to all units of higher education or not used at all. It should be noted here, however, that the notion of screening was not defined and could have very bad connotations for some persons.

E4

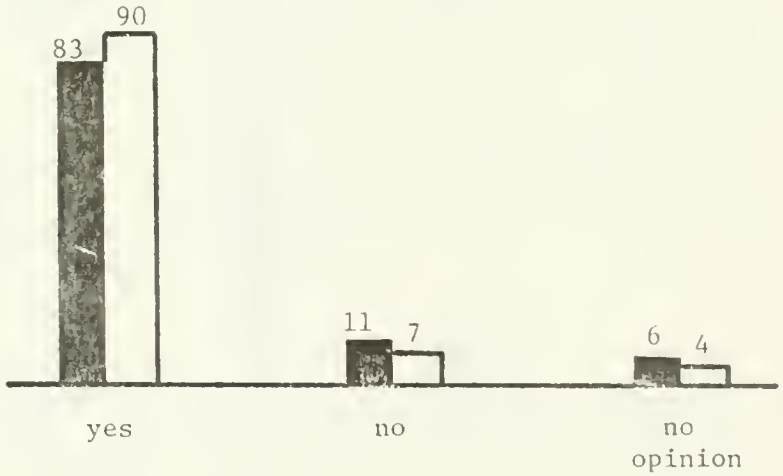
Screening university admission



There is strong support for having a vocational-technical program for high school graduates available in many communities.

E5

Vocational-technical programs



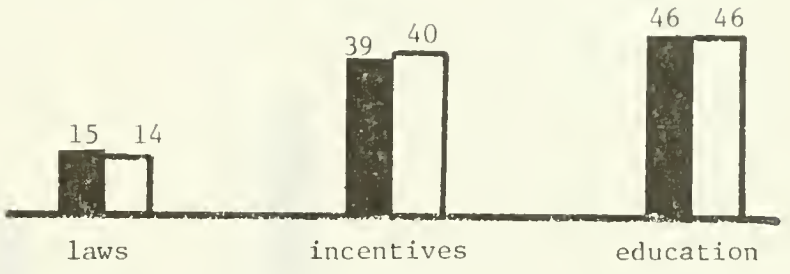
ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION

ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION

Energy conservation is a critical concern which was expressed in this survey through a large desire for public information and education for voluntary energy saving methods. Incentives for energy saving methods were also ranked high, while laws with penalties for noncompliance were clearly not favored. If such laws are or become necessary, it will be important to provide a great deal of advance general information to the public.

D1

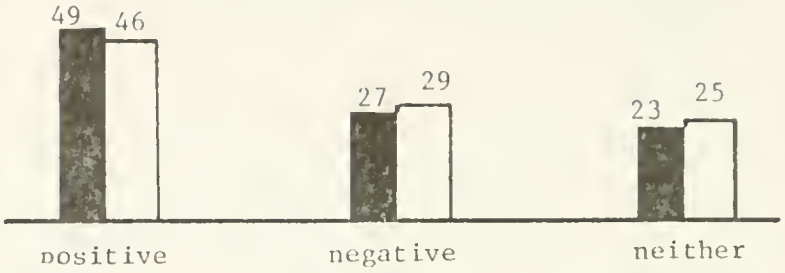
Basic ways to conserve energy



A major energy conservation program is viewed as more likely to have a positive rather than a negative or neutral effect on variables associated with the cost and style of living. However, the wording of this question did not define positive or negative effect; and there could have easily been some confusion on the part of respondents.

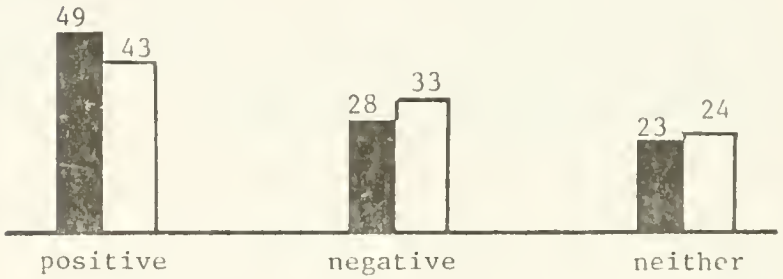
D2D

Inflation



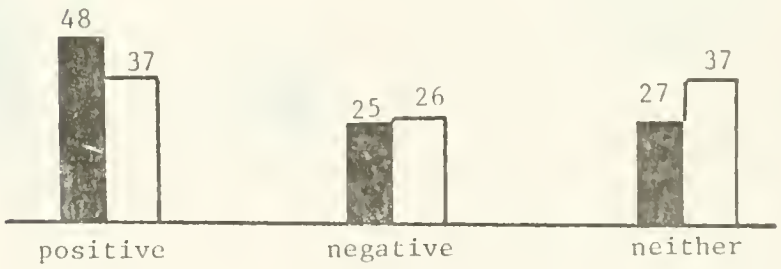
D2C

Taxes



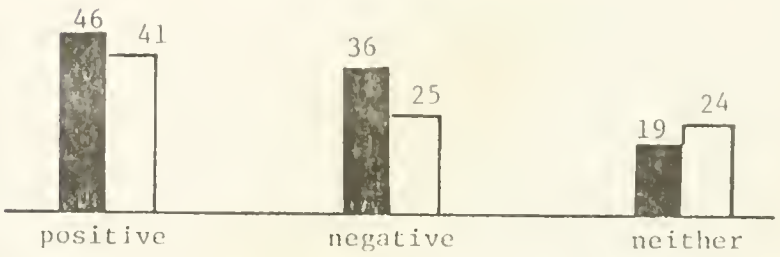
D2E

Size of government



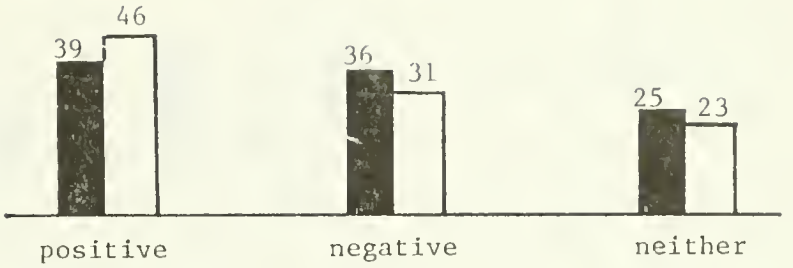
D2F

Number of jobs



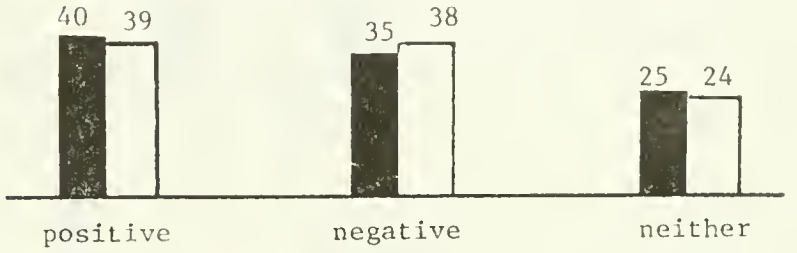
D2B

Standard of living



D2A

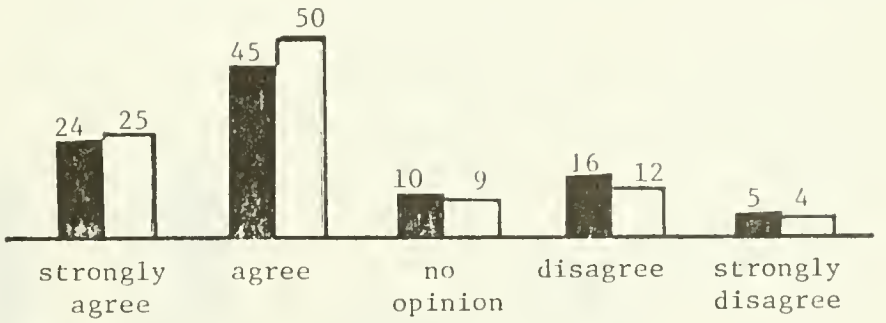
Growth of economy



Most persons agree that the government needs to consider the consequences of energy measures before promoting them, and there is more agreement than disagreement with the notion of using tax incentives to promote the recycling of materials. A consensus on whether or not unit electrical rates should be increased as the amount used increases could not be reached. This is an energy saving concept which may not be completely understood by the public, perhaps a public information program should be considered.

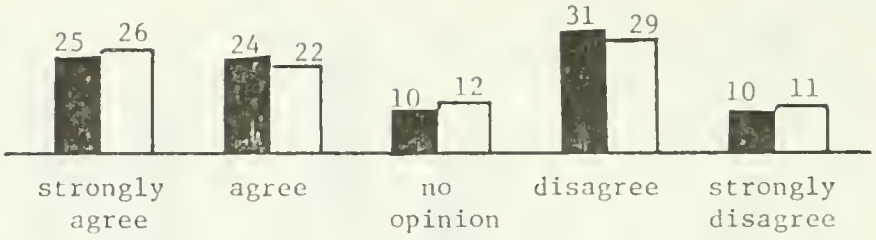
D3C

New technologies



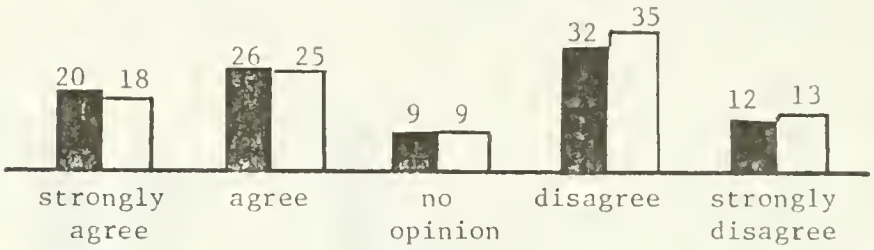
D3A

Tax on commodities



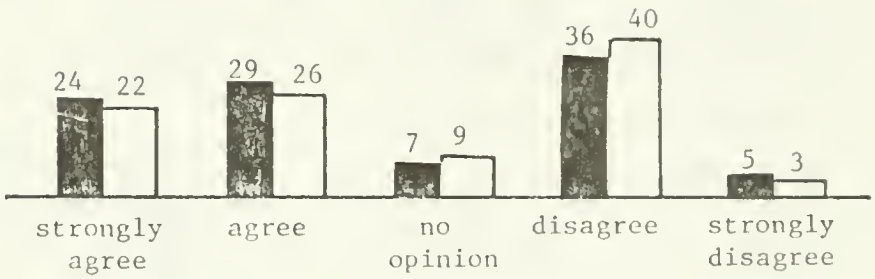
D3B

Electricity rates



D3D

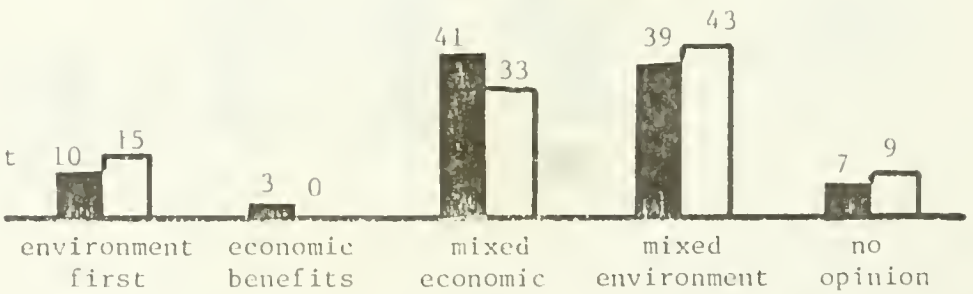
Cost of energy inflated



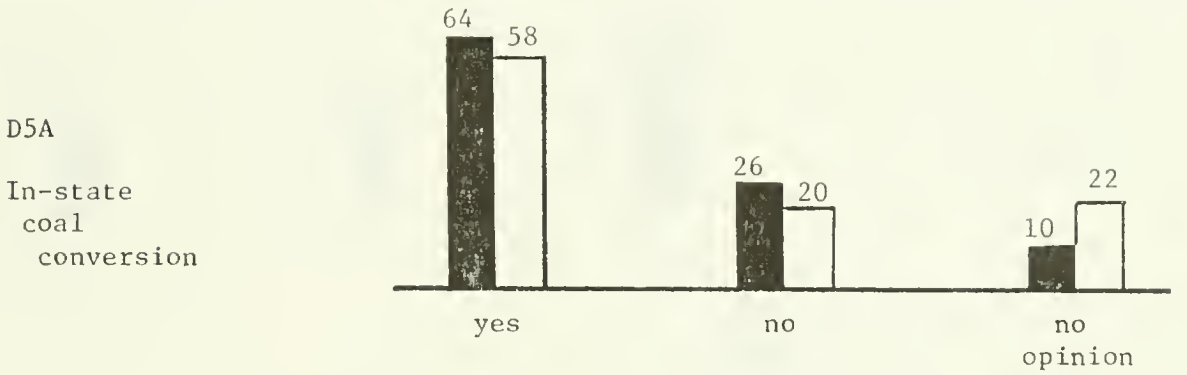
In conflicts between economic benefits and environmental damage, there is more sympathy for preserving the environment than there is for gaining economic benefits. There is no support for economic gain at any cost to the environment, but there is some support (10-15%) for environmental protection before all else.

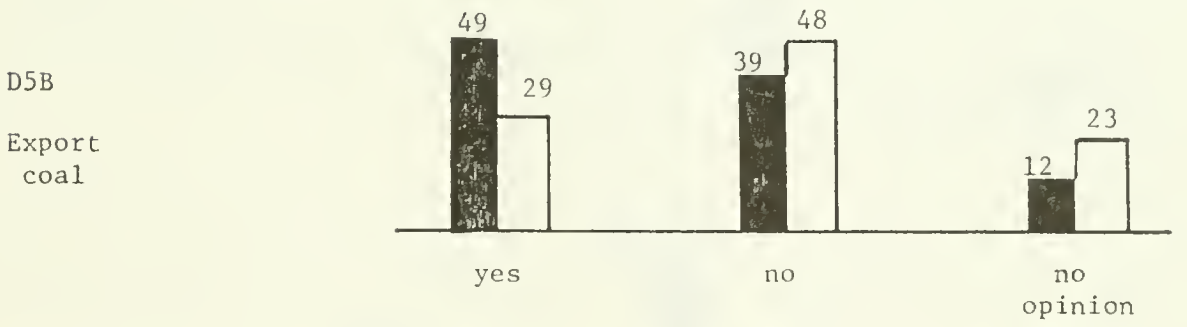
D4

Position on energy development



In-state conversion of coal is favored at a ratio of about 5 to 2 statewide, and with a somewhat lower ratio in region 5. Export of coal for out-of-state conversion is not favored. Regional differences do not occur in regard to coal development questions, and this is probably due to the considerable publicity the matter received.

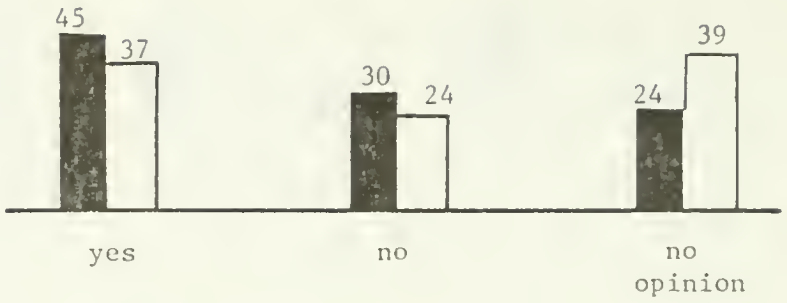




In-state conversion of uranium is favored at a ratio of about 4 to 3 statewide and with a higher ratio in region 4. Export of uranium for out-of-state conversion is also favored at a ratio of about 4 to 3.

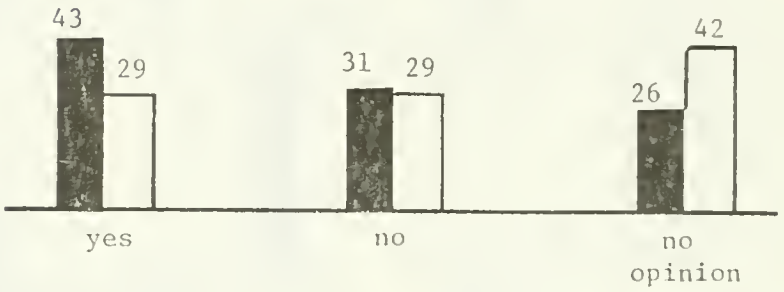
D6A

In-state uranium conversion



D6B

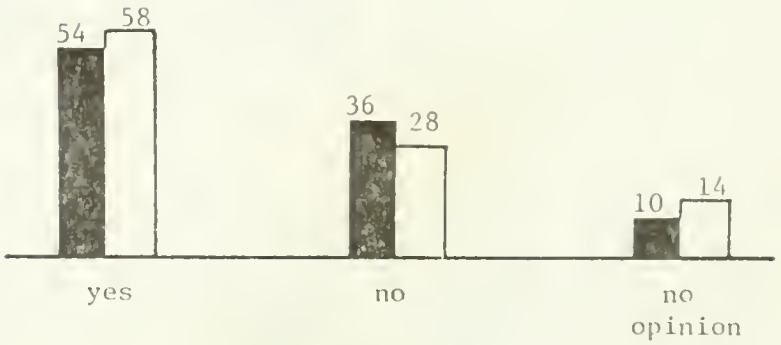
Export uranium



State regulation of where and to what extent coal is mined is favored at a ratio of over 3 to 2 statewide and at a higher ratio in region 5. A somewhat higher ratio holds for regulation of uranium mines.

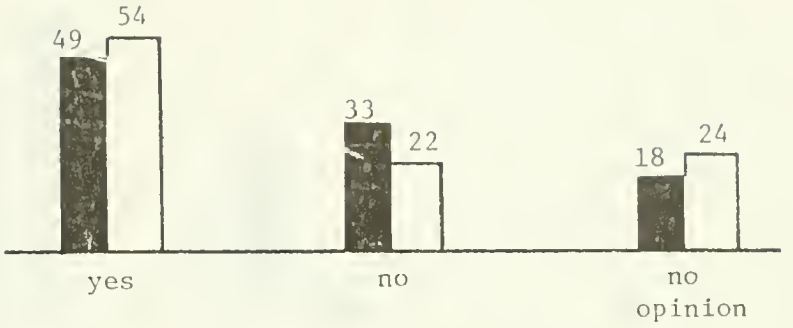
D7A

Location of coal mines



D7B

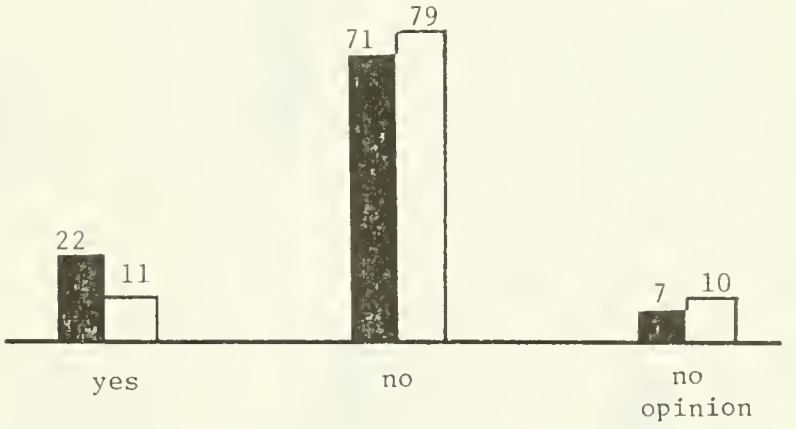
Location of uranium mines



A consistent opinion was registered in favor of the strip mining of land having average or below average productive capability for agriculture, livestock, and wildlife use. Highest priority was given to preserving land with above average capability for agriculture.

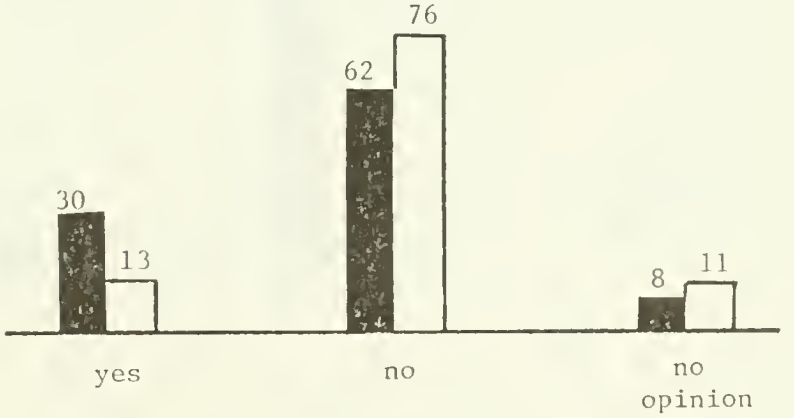
D8A

High agriculture capability



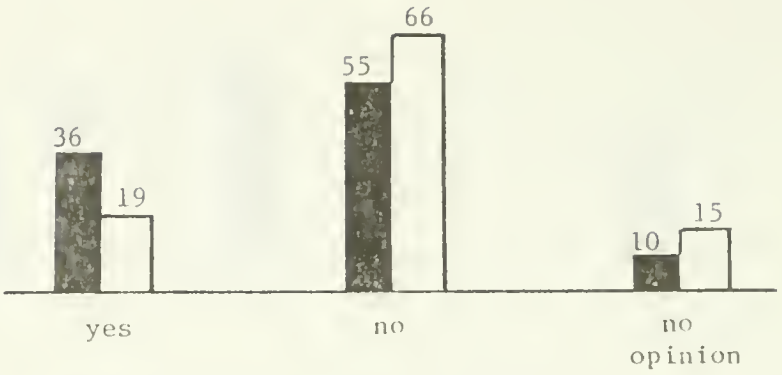
D8B

High livestock capability



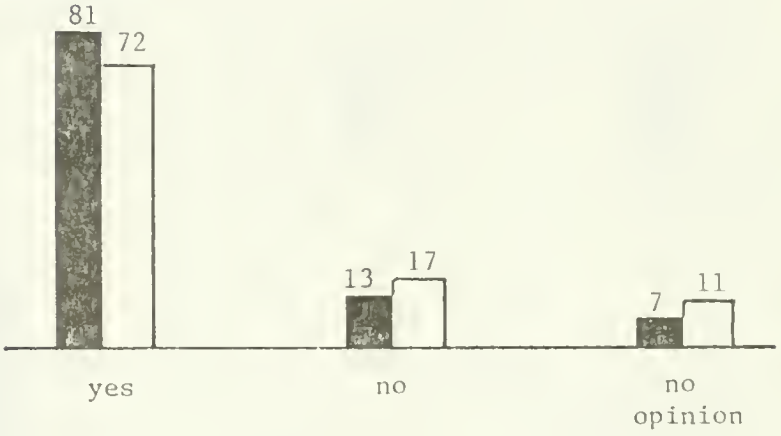
D8C

High wildlife capability



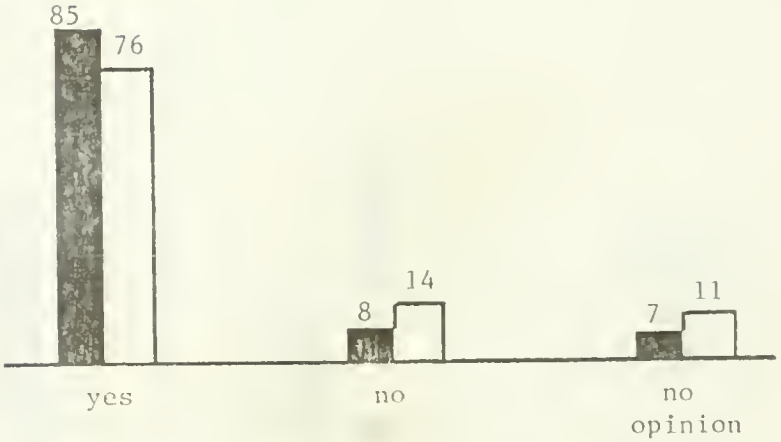
D8D

Low agriculture capability



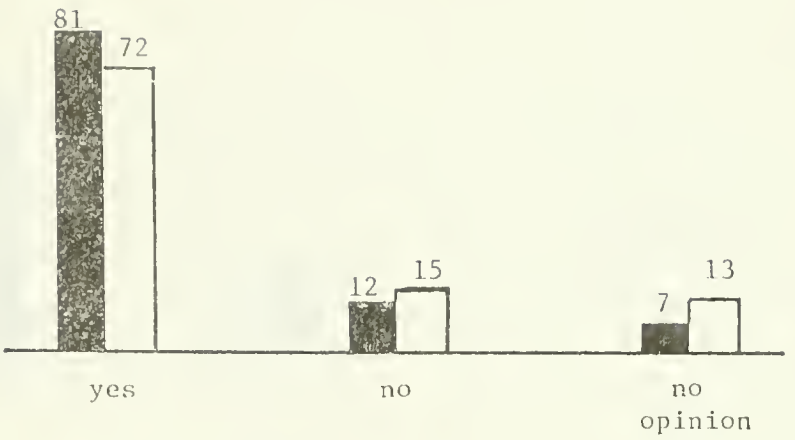
D8E

Low livestock capability



D8F

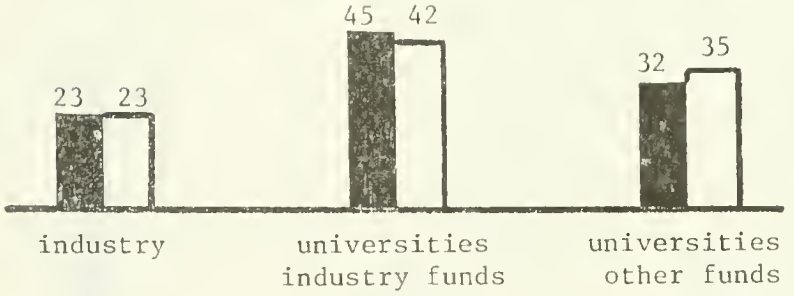
Low wildlife capability



Mine reclamation research by universities and other groups is favored by 77% of the respondents. Funding of this type of research by government funds is favored by 44%, while such funding by industry funds is favored by 33%. Research conducted by industry with industry funds is favored by only 23%. This indicates a general mistrust of big industry and its lack of accountability for its former actions.

D9

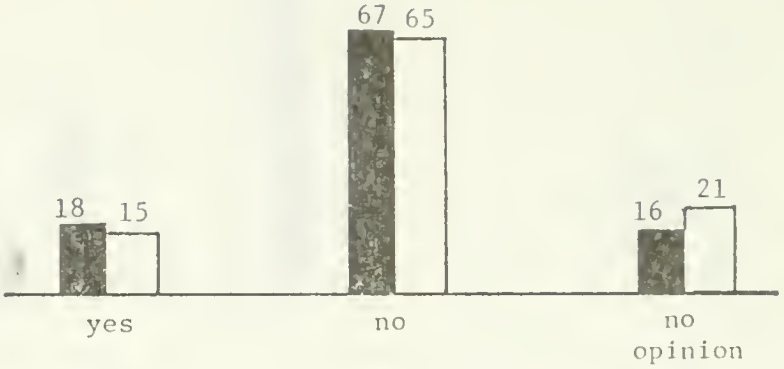
Mine reclamation research



Montanans are definitely opposed to increased taxes for mining law enforcement. The public is indifferent to the present status of the reclamation program or the need for additional controls.

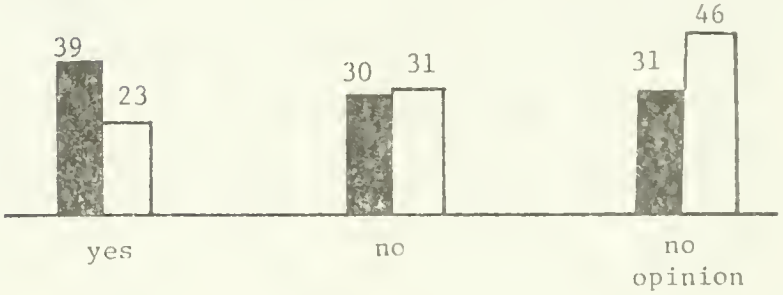
D12

Taxes for mining controls



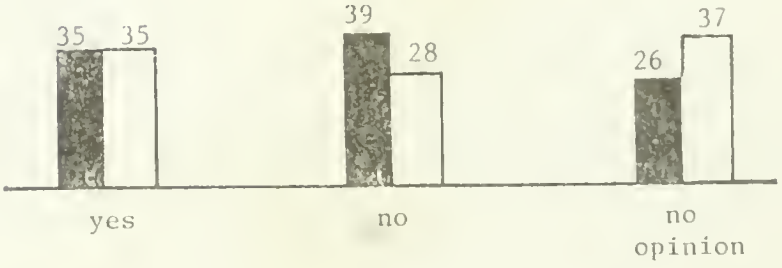
D10

Montana's reclamation program



D11

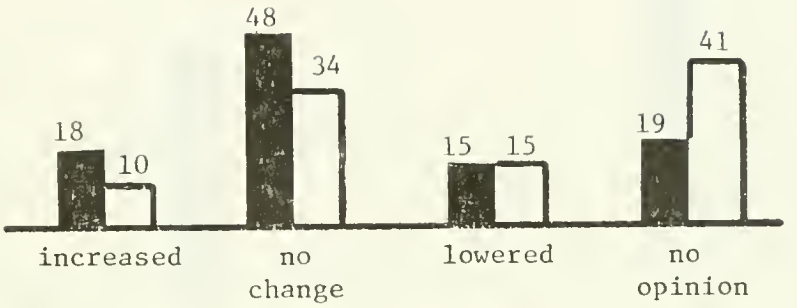
Additional mining controls



Among those persons registering an opinion, about 60% would leave the present coal severance tax unchanged, about 20% would have it increased, and about 20% would have it lowered. Thus an approximate 80% would leave the tax as is or else increase it.

D13

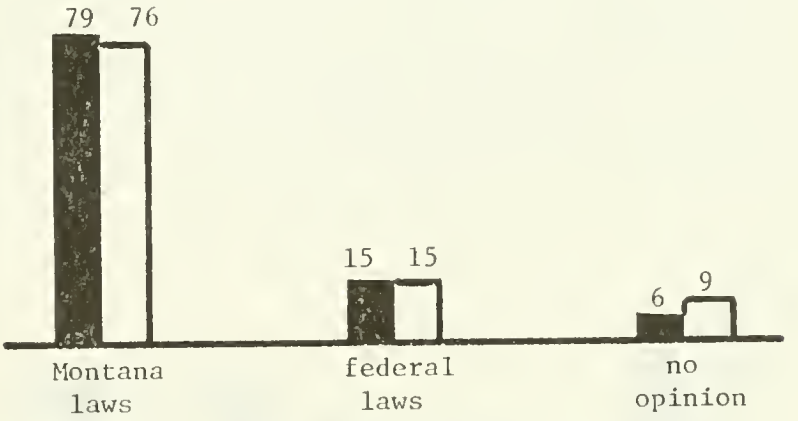
Coal severance tax



Most Montanans feel state laws should apply to the development of federal lands and minerals.

D14

Policies to govern development

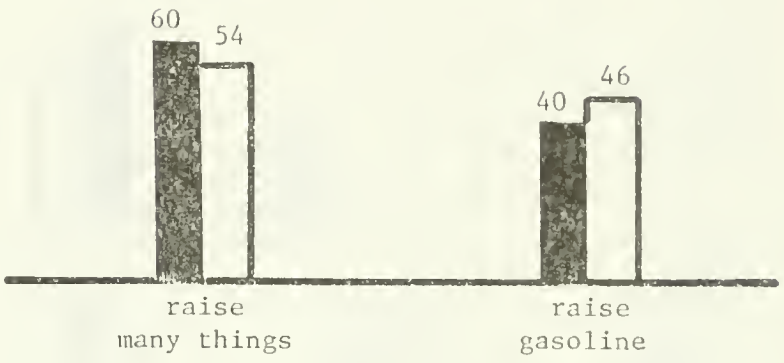


Given a choice, raising the price of gasoline rather than many other things is not prefered as a method of forcing people to save energy. This is probably best interpreted as "don't raise the price of

gasoline". Since to believe that people would really endorse increasing the price of many goods including food and clothing is to believe that they also would accept a general sales tax, a form of price increase that has been repeatedly rejected.

D15

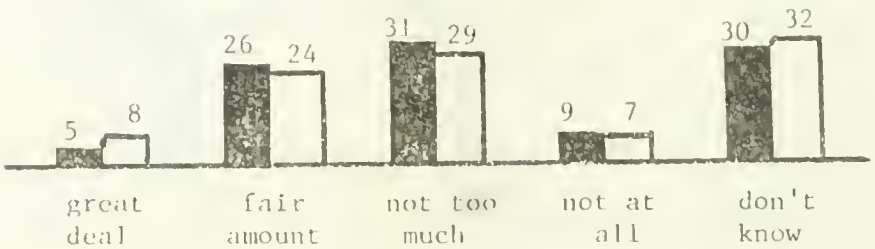
Prices to save energy



If the schools provide energy conservation information, it is generally unknown to the public. This could easily be followed up at the school level to provide additional education on energy saving methods and increase the visibility of such programs. However, since over 2/3 of the persons surveyed do not have children in school, alternative means of public awareness must be used.

D16

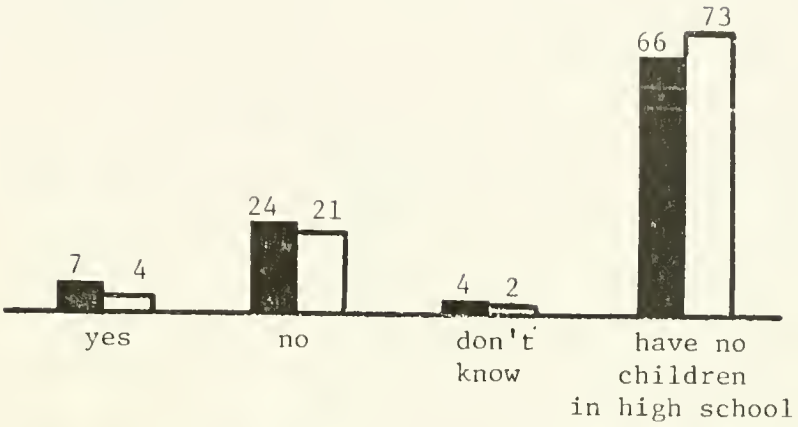
Schools emphasize energy conservation



Schools do not appear to be an adequate medium for conveying information about energy conservation.

D17

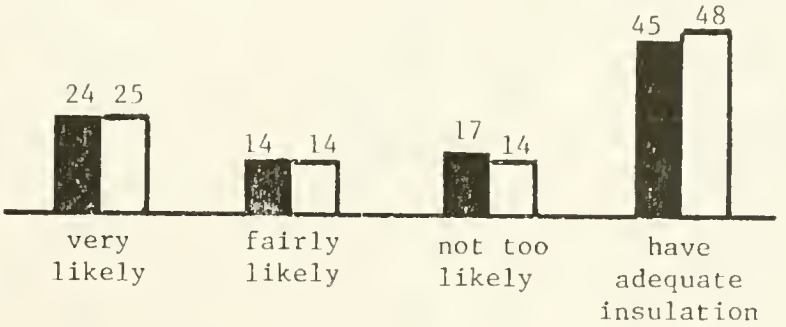
School tips on energy



Over 45% of the respondents feel they already have adequate attic insulation. However, given federal financial assistance, about 39% feel that they might add attic insulation. Information concerning adequate insulation clearly needs to be distributed statewide, and the possibility of assessing the number of dwellings (and other buildings) with insufficient insulation should be considered.

D18

Buy attic insulation



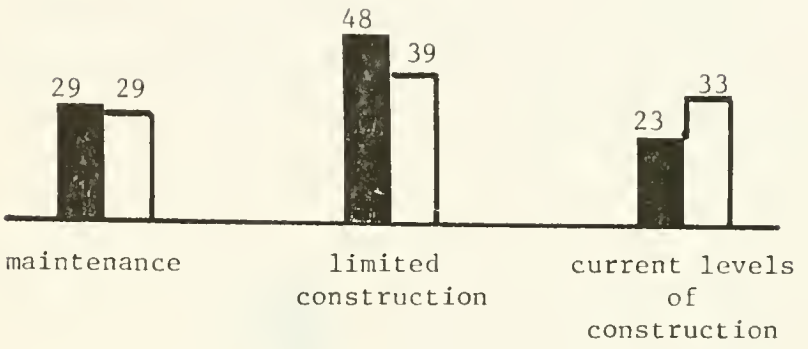
HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS

Over 70% of Montanans favor raising state money to maintain and construct highways if federal funds are reduced. However, most persons in this group also prefer a limited construction program.

H1

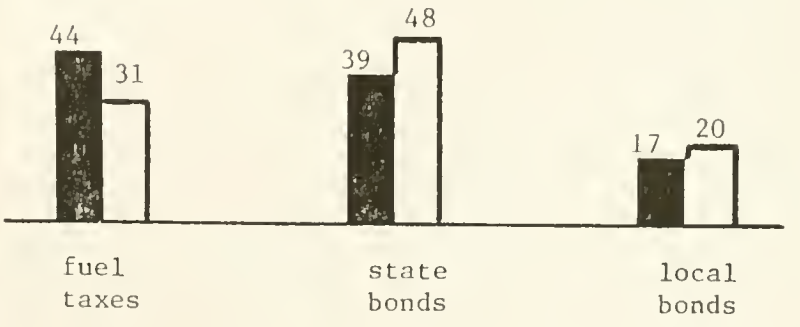
Alternatives to reduced Federal aid



If additional money must be raised to support the Montana highway program, either increased fuel taxes or state level bond issues would be preferred. No clear distinction should be made between these options since relative costs and other comparisons were not included in this survey.

H2

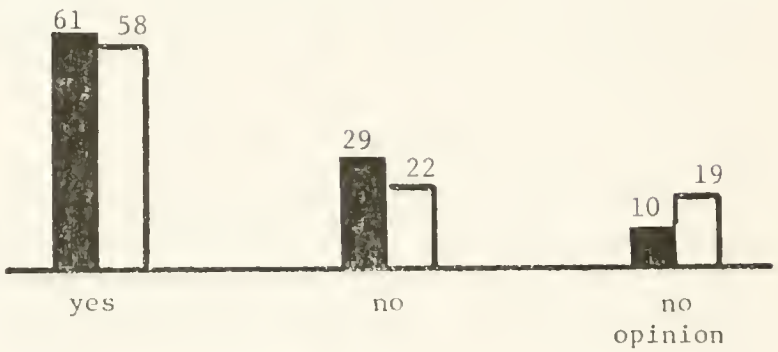
Raising additional highway funds



To pay the states share of the interstate highway program, a majority of persons would prefer raising the gasoline tax 2¢ per gallon. This is a strong preference and could also reflect against using state bond issues as suggested in the previous item. This willingness to increase fuel tax for interstate construction may also indicate a strong feeling to increase utilization of federal aid as much as possible.

H3

Raise gas tax 2¢



AGRICULTURE, LAND USE, AND WATER RIGHTS

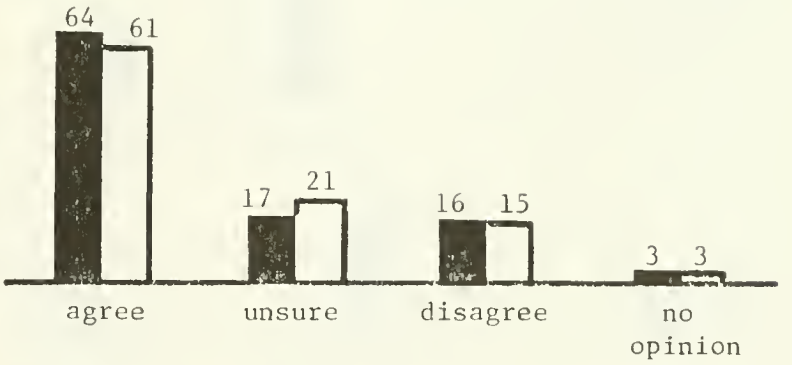
AGRICULTURE, LAND USE AND WATER RIGHTS

Land use and planning are important issues in Montana and it appears that the general public is divided between supporting the individuals right to determine the use of his real property and governmental planning.

On a statewide basis, about 2/3 of the respondents feel that Montana land should be preserved for food production. Women in region 2 departed from the general consensus with only 38% expressing this opinion. This seems consistent with the agricultural history of the state. However, more persons agreed than disagreed with the statement that land use should be that which provided the greatest economic benefits. In region 2 this agreement was significantly greater than it was in the rest of the state.

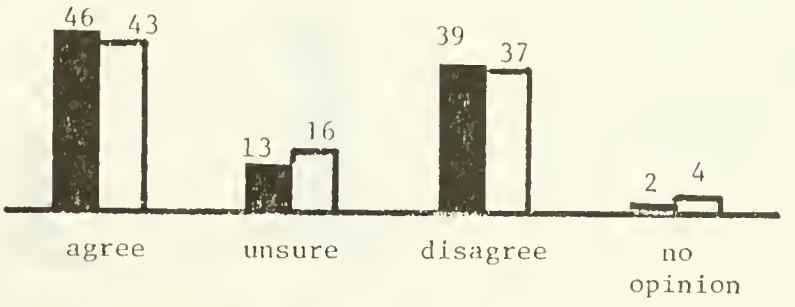
A1A

Lands preserved for food production



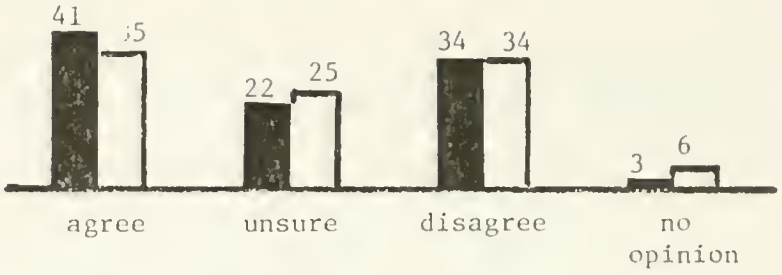
A1C

Greatest economic benefits



A1B

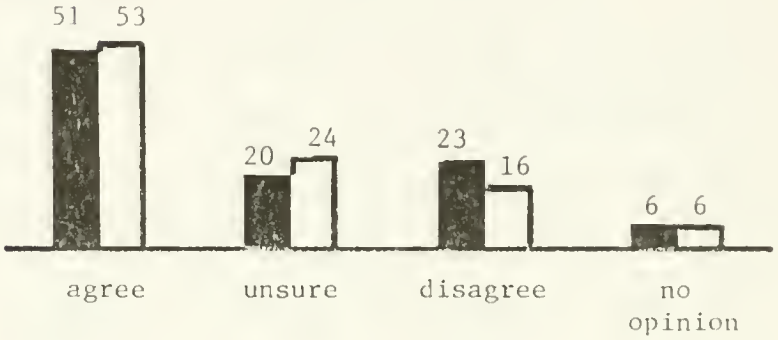
Planning by government



Support for family farms was expressed by the endorsement of both financial assistance and provision of low rent state lands.

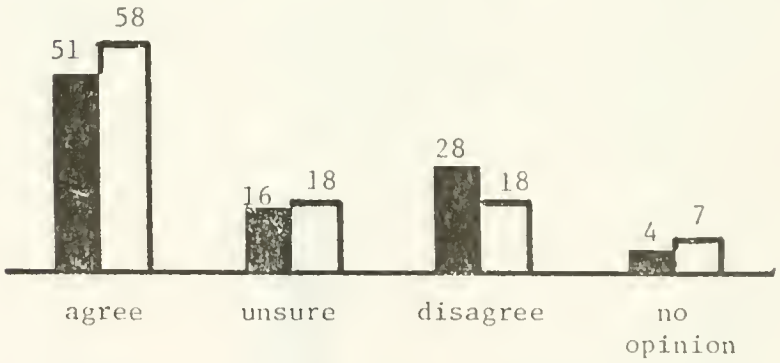
A1D

Capital available to family farmers for financing



A1E

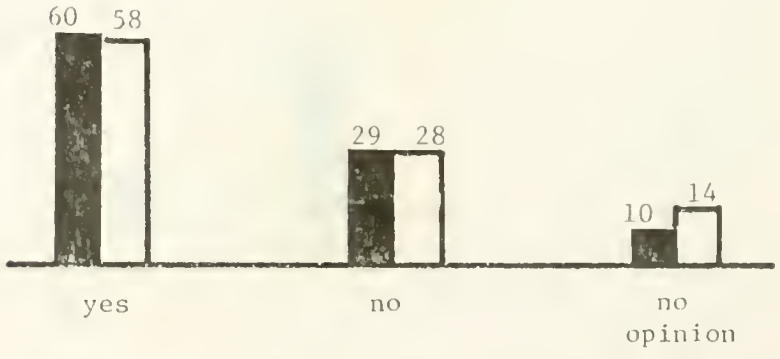
Assist family farming



Support of a national agricultural program providing for the stockpiling of food was favored by almost 60% of the respondents.

A2

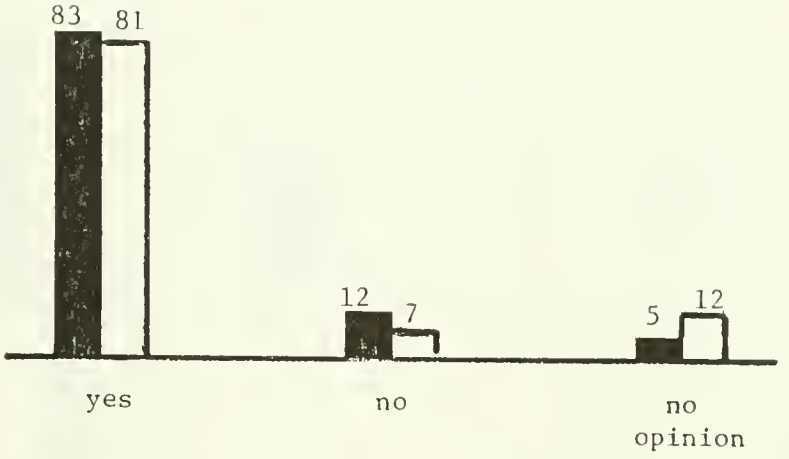
Stockpiling of food



To help alleviate the cost/price squeeze on livestock producers, Montanans tend to favor government control of external factors and financial assistance. They did not favor other federal action which restricts or influences their production strategies. Restrictive import quotas were the most strongly favored remedy, with over 80% supporting this measure. Increased loan programs should also be seriously considered since at least 12% more people agreed with this option than disagreed.

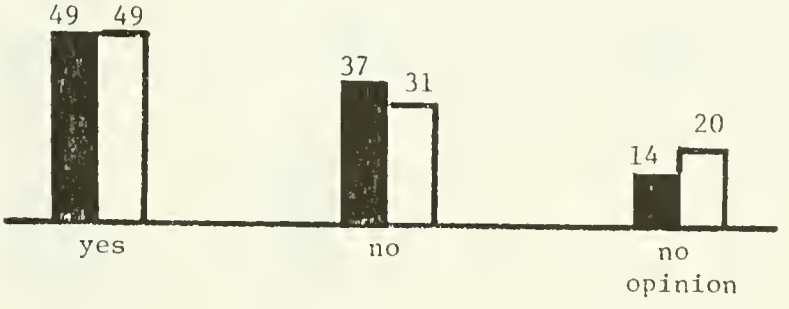
A3C

Restrictive import quotas



A3D

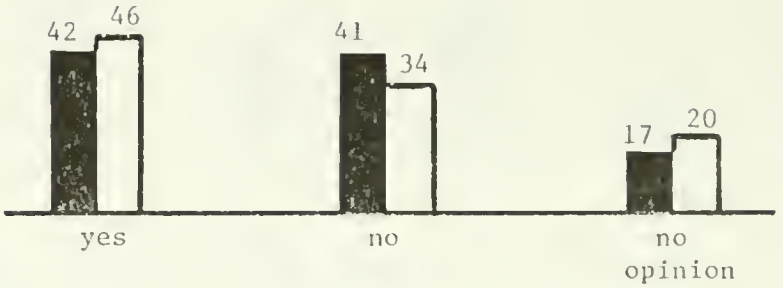
Agricultural loan programs



In region 1 a clear majority favored federally funded food programs for schools and institutions, however in the remainder of the state opinion was divided and significant differences were not found.

A3E

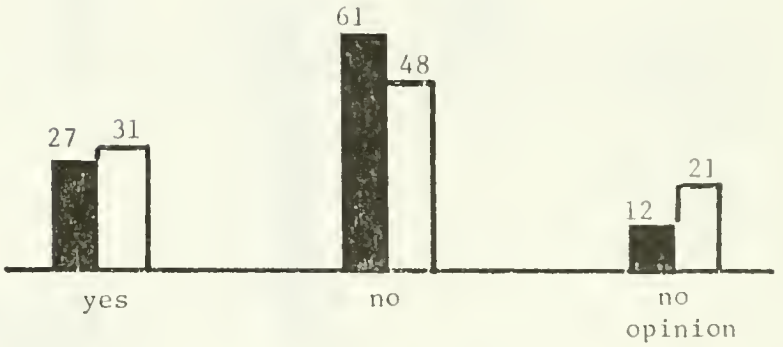
Federally funded food programs



Programs which control production or provide for federal purchase were rejected in every region of the state.

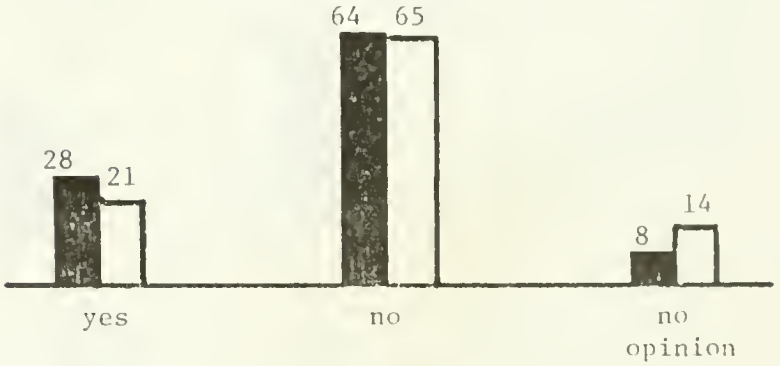
A3A

Federal purchases



A3B

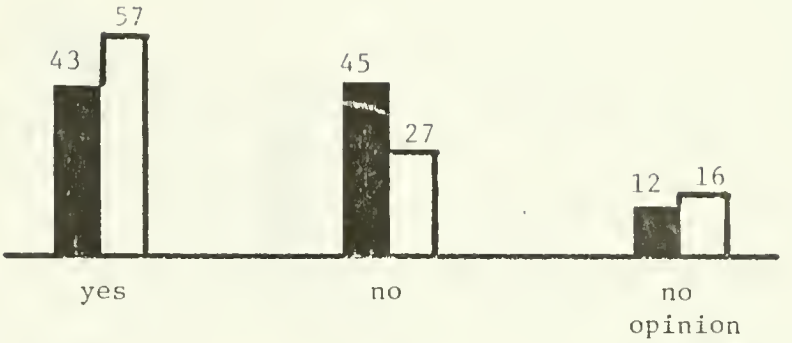
Controlled production



Overall, there appears to be more support for than opposition to federal subsidies to rail transporation for agricultural products. Women tend to clearly support this, while men are almost evenly divided.

A4

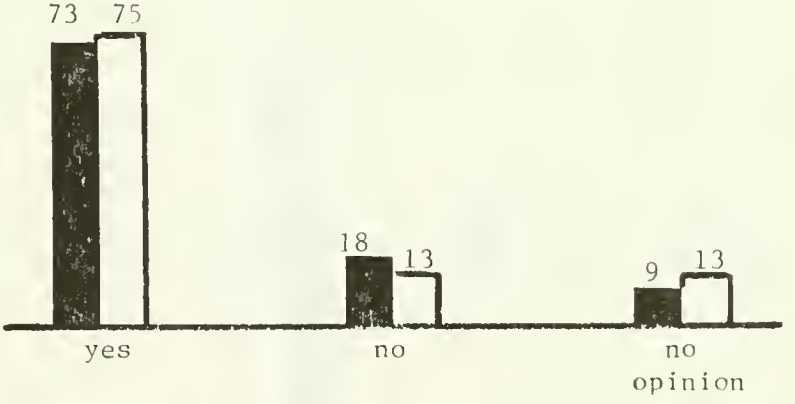
Subsidize rail transportation



Water rights are no less important to society today than they were to the miners and ranchers in the 1800's. However, there is a clear tendency to involve governmental units in water planning. Almost 3/4 of the respondents felt that local government should be more involved in water planning programs, and that this effort should be statewide.

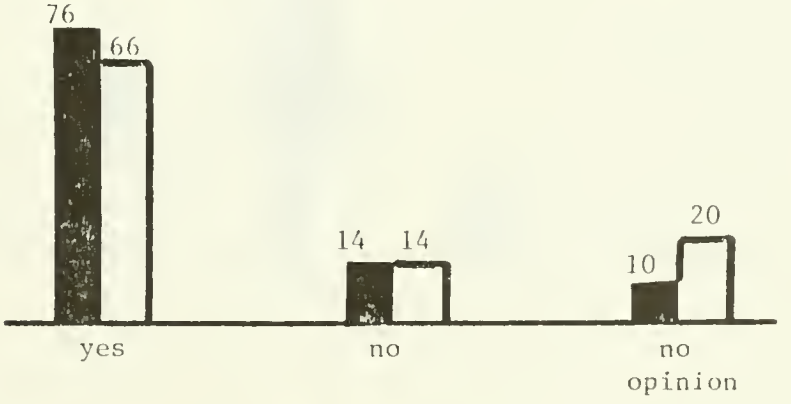
A5

Water planning by local government



A8

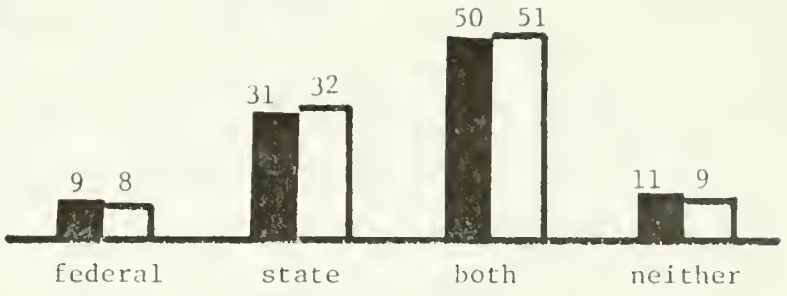
Determining statewide water rights



One half the respondents felt that both state and federal funding sources should be used for water planning.

A6

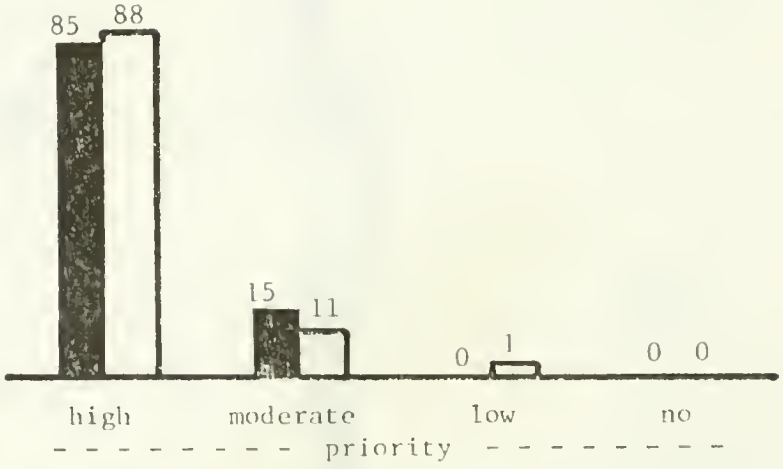
Funding for local water planning



Highest priority for water rights was clearly given to agricultural uses. Domestic use, fish and wildlife and municipal uses received middle priorities while lowest priorities for water went to industry mining and recreational uses.

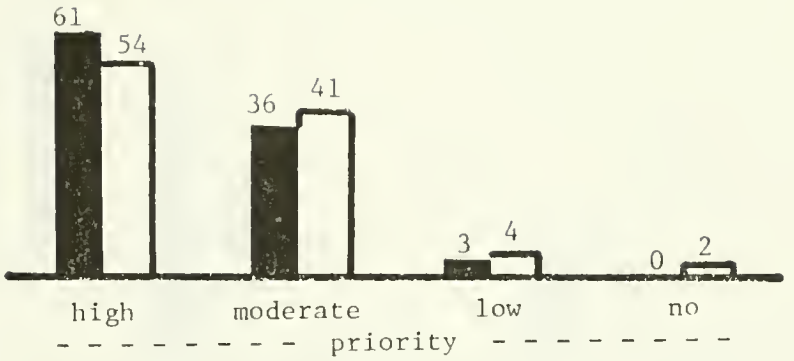
A7A

Agriculture



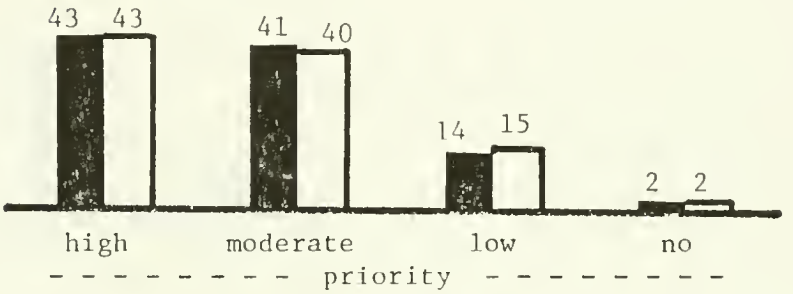
A7B

Domestic



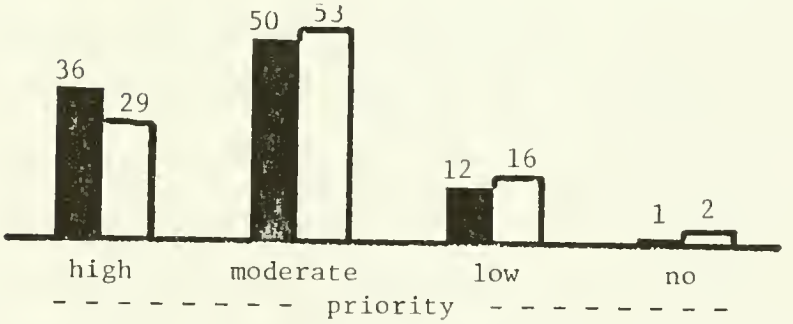
A7E

Fish and wildlife



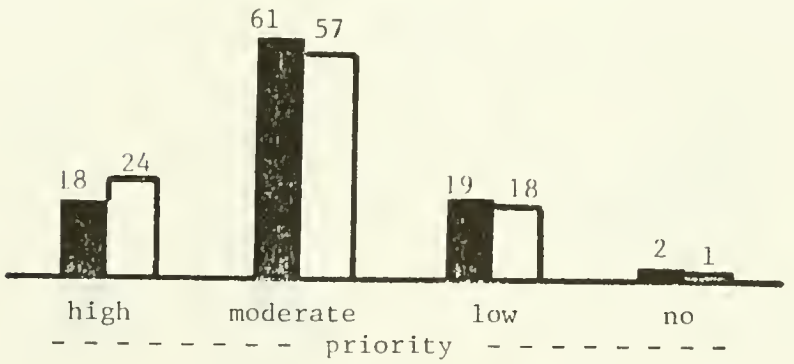
A7F

Municipal



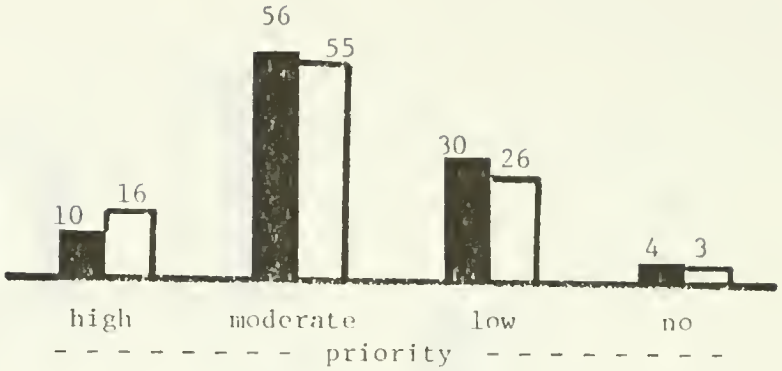
A7D

Industry



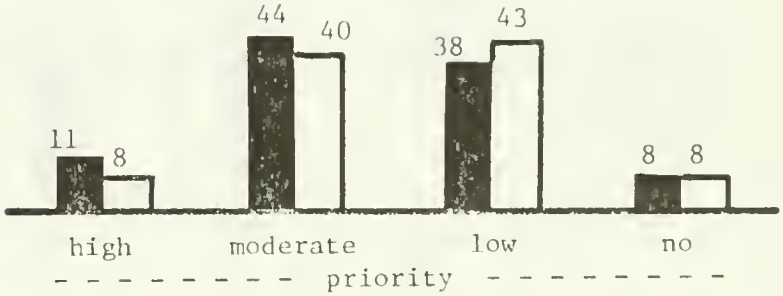
A7C

Mining



A7G

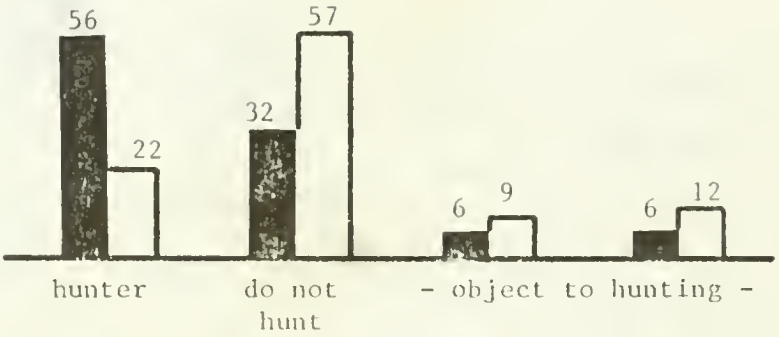
Recreational



Montana's game animals are an acknowledged resource for residents and non-residents, and for hunters and general observers. Over 55% of the men and over 20% of the women in Montana claim to be hunters, and fewer than one in seven oppose hunting. Whether they hunt or not, approximately 70% of Montana's residents make special efforts to observe wildlife in its natural setting.

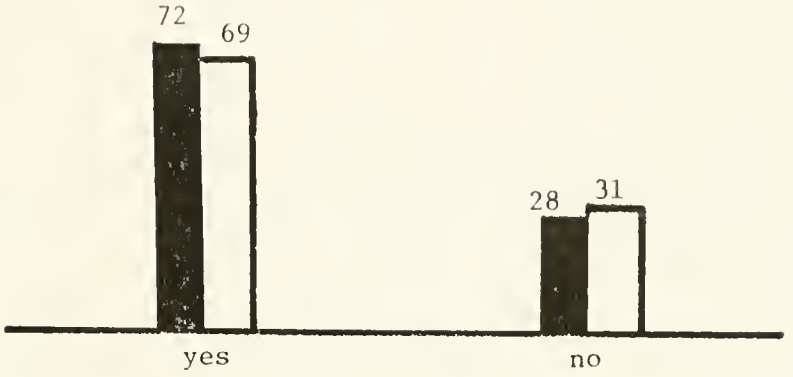
A9

Position concerning hunting



A10

Observe wildlife



APPENDIX A

MONTANA FUTURES SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

MONTANA FUTURES SURVEY

This is a statewide opinion survey providing for public input into policy and planning alternatives for the future of Montana. This opportunity to have a direct voice in shaping the future of our state is provided for by the administration of Governor Judge in the interest of improved quality of life for Montana residents.

All responses will be completely anonymous. Please use the enclosed postpaid envelope to return the completed opinion survey form to Montana State University for tallying.

YOUR OPINIONS ARE IMPORTANT
Please take 10 minutes to complete this survey now

SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Place an X in the box by your choice

			Very Important	Important	Not Important	No Opinion
S	1.	How important do you feel each of the following are in dealing with future crime rates?				
	A	Have judges give longer jail sentences	☐	☐	☐	☐
	B	Enact strong gun control legislation	☐	☐	☐	☐
	C	Decentralize the penal system and emphasize rehabilitation	☐	☐	☐	☐
	D	Consolidate law enforcement units	☐	☐	☐	☐
	E	Hire more law enforcement personnel	☐	☐	☐	☐

S 2 How safe do you feel in your community at night?

Very safe ☐ Reasonably safe ☐ Somewhat unsafe ☐ Very unsafe ☐

S 3. Should the state provide health clinics for rural areas?

A Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

B Should the state subsidize medical doctors who are willing to locate in sparsely settled areas?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

C Should personnel who man emergency vehicles have certified medical training in emergency work?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

			High Priority	Moderate Priority	Low Priority	No Priority
S	4.	States may use several strategies for treating crime. What priority do you feel Montana should give to each of the following methods of correction?				
	A	Educate and prepare offenders for legitimate careers	☐	☐	☐	☐
	B	Quick and sure punishment, including capital punishment	☐	☐	☐	☐
	C	Help former offenders adjust and be accepted into communities	☐	☐	☐	☐
	D	Establish means for repaying victims for their losses	☐	☐	☐	☐
	E	Separate and isolate violators from the community	☐	☐	☐	☐
	F	Create programs which reduce the social causes of crime	☐	☐	☐	☐
S	5.	What priority do you feel the state should give to the following programs for treating mentally ill or incompetent persons?				
	A	Community services so they may function as well as possible	☐	☐	☐	☐
	B	Train and educate the incompetent to function in society	☐	☐	☐	☐
	C	Treatment and guidance programs for all of them	☐	☐	☐	☐
	D	Institutionalize persons for as long as is necessary	☐	☐	☐	☐
	E	Prepare communities to accept and understand them	☐	☐	☐	☐

GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

			High confidence	Some confidence	No confidence	Not sure
G	1	How much confidence do you have that the following government offices fairly represent the interests of Montanans?				
	A	The governor	☐	☐	☐	☐
	B	The state legislature	☐	☐	☐	☐
	C	State courts	☐	☐	☐	☐
	D	State agencies	☐	☐	☐	☐
	E	County government	☐	☐	☐	☐
	F	City government	☐	☐	☐	☐

G . In general, how much consideration do you expect your state legislator to give to each of the following when he/she votes on proposed bills:

		Very high priority	High priority	Moderate priority	Low priority
A	The preferences of the people in his/her district	☐	☐	☐	☐
B	The advice of interest groups	☐	☐	☐	☐
C	His/her own best judgement	☐	☐	☐	☐
D	The advice of his/her political party leaders	☐	☐	☐	☐

G 1 Assume that you are a state legislator and have the following proposals before you. How would you vote on each one?

		For	Against	No opinion
A	A bill to use tax dollars to create temporary public service jobs	☐	☐	☐
B	A bill to give tax breaks to private businesses as incentives to expand and provide more jobs	☐	☐	☐
C	A bill to create a state land use and planning agency	☐	☐	☐
D	A bill establishing a state sales tax on all retail sales	☐	☐	☐
E	A bill requiring public access for recreational purposes across private lands to public lands	☐	☐	☐
F	A bill establishing a state public television network	☐	☐	☐
G	A bill to make city and county land use planning and regulation mandatory	☐	☐	☐

G 4 If you as a legislator had to choose between increasing state taxes to maintain existing services or lowering taxes and thereby reducing the services listed below, which would you choose?

		Increase Taxes	Reduce Services
A	Road construction and maintenance	☐	☐
B	Education	☐	☐
C	Social and Health services	☐	☐
D	Law enforcement and corrections	☐	☐
E	Recreational facilities and service	☐	☐

G 5 All Montana cities and counties recently completed the local government voter review process. Do you think that this activity was (Choose one)

Very useful and should be repeated every ten years	☐
Useful, but not worth repeating	☐
Of no importance	☐
No opinion	☐
I was unaware that such a voter review process had occurred	☐

G 6 With a fixed amount of state money available for local transportation needs, how much priority would you give towards allocating it to each of the following categories?

		Very high priority	High priority	Moderate priority	Low priority
A	Arterial highways	☐	☐	☐	☐
B	Rural roads	☐	☐	☐	☐
C	Airports	☐	☐	☐	☐
D	Local mass transit (buses)	☐	☐	☐	☐
E	Bikeways	☐	☐	☐	☐

G 7 Listed below are five kinds of services that local governments provide to citizens. Indicate the extent to which you think they deserve state tax support.

		High tax support	Moderate support	Low tax support
A	Welfare	☐	☐	☐
B	Library	☐	☐	☐
C	Parks and Recreation	☐	☐	☐
D	Health Services	☐	☐	☐
E	Sanitation Services	☐	☐	☐
F	Police Protection	☐	☐	☐
G	Fire Protection	☐	☐	☐

G 8 Some community problems are local in nature, and others have a state-wide impact. Do you think (Choose one)

It would be better to give local governments more power?	☐
It would be better to expand state control over more areas?	☐
The balance between state government and local goverment power is just about right?	☐

G 9 If federal aid is available, how much priority would you give towards allocating this aid to each of the following areas?

		Very high priority	High priority	Moderate priority	Low priority
A	Public employment	☐	☐	☐	☐
B	Recreation	☐	☐	☐	☐
C	Social and health services	☐	☐	☐	☐
D	Public education	☐	☐	☐	☐
E	Conservation and natural resource development	☐	☐	☐	☐
F	Law enforcement and correction	☐	☐	☐	☐
G	Highway construction and maintenance	☐	☐	☐	☐

G 10 In your opinion which level of government should have the major administrative responsibility for these problems?

	Local	State	Federal	Not sure
A Health and Welfare	☐	☐	☐	☐
B Natural resource management	☐	☐	☐	☐
C Law enforcement	☐	☐	☐	☐
D Highways and roads	☐	☐	☐	☐
E Land use planning and control	☐	☐	☐	☐

HIGHER EDUCATION

E 1. How well do you think the University System is performing each of the following functions?

	Very well	Average	Poorly	No Opinion
A Instructing students	☐	☐	☐	☐
B Conducting research on public problems	☐	☐	☐	☐
C Performing public service through extension and other services	☐	☐	☐	☐
D Maintaining quality programs	☐	☐	☐	☐
E Making higher education available to more people through continuing education and other community programs	☐	☐	☐	☐
F Contributing to the personal interests (cultural, social, etc.) of you and your family	☐	☐	☐	☐

E 2. How important do you think each of the following University System functions is?

	Very Important	Fairly Important	Not Important	No Opinion
A Instructing students	☐	☐	☐	☐
B Conducting research on public problems	☐	☐	☐	☐
C Performing public service through extension and other services	☐	☐	☐	☐
D Maintaining quality programs	☐	☐	☐	☐
E Making higher education available to more people through continuing education and other community programs	☐	☐	☐	☐
F Contributing to the personal interests (cultural, social, etc.) of you and your family	☐	☐	☐	☐
G Supporting an intercollegiate athletic program	☐	☐	☐	☐

E 3. Considering the costs of higher education, do you think (Choose one)

- More costs should be paid by students, less by taxes. ☐
- More costs should be paid by taxes, less by students. ☐
- The current share from students and taxes is about right ☐

E 4. Any graduate of a Montana High School should be. (Choose one)

- Admitted to any unit of the Montana College and University System ☐
- Screened for admittance to the University of Montana and Montana State University ☐
- Screened for admittance to any unit of the college and university system ☐

E 5. Would you favor having a wide range of vocational-technical programs for high school graduates available in many communities throughout the state?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION

D 1. Montana can strive to conserve energy in three basic ways. Choose the one method you think is best.

- Laws requiring energy conservation practices, including penalties and/or fines for noncompliance ☐
- Incentives for conforming to energy-saving methods, including subsidies and tax rebates. ☐
- Public information and education programs explaining new methods of saving energy voluntarily ☐

D 2 Do you believe that a major energy conservation program will have a positive, negative or no effect on each of the following activities?

	Positive	Negative	Neither
A Growth of economy	☐	☐	☐
B Standard of living	☐	☐	☐
C Taxes	☐	☐	☐
D Inflation	☐	☐	☐
E Size of government	☐	☐	☐
F Number of jobs	☐	☐	☐

D 3 Please indicate your opinion about each of the following statements

	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
A There should be a tax on such commodities as bottles, cans, newspapers, and automobiles as an incentive to recycle the materials.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
B The rates charged for electricity should be increased, as the amount consumed is increased, rather than lowered as consumption increases.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
C Governments should not promote new energy technologies until possible related negative consequences have been studied	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
D The cost of energy sources such as gasoline and electricity has inflated much more rapidly than other things I have to buy.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

D 4. Which of the following statements is closest to your idea concerning energy development? (Choose one)

- The environment should be preserved at any cost ☐
- Economic benefits are worth any environmental damage ☐
- Mixed feelings, but conflict should be resolved in favor of economic benefits ☐
- Mixed feelings, but conflict should be resolved in favor of environmental benefits ☐
- No opinion ☐

D 5. Do you favor

A In-state conversion of coal?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

B Export of coal for conversion elsewhere?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

D 6. Do you favor

A In-state conversion of uranium?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

B Export of uranium for conversion elsewhere?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

D 7. Do you believe that state government should establish criteria regulating the location

A and number of coal mines?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

B Do you believe that state government should establish criteria regulating the location and number of uranium mines?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

D 8 Should strip mining (in compliance with reclamation laws) be allowed on

	Yes	No	No Opinion
A Lands with above average productive capability for agriculture?	☐	☐	☐
B Lands with above average productive capability for livestock?	☐	☐	☐
C Lands with above average productive capability for wildlife?	☐	☐	☐
D Lands with average or below average productive capability for agriculture?	☐	☐	☐
E Lands with average or below average productive capability for livestock?	☐	☐	☐
F Lands with average or below average productive capability for wildlife?	☐	☐	☐

D 9. Mine reclamation research to identify problems and to investigate solutions to these problems is being attempted. How do you think this could be handled best? (Choose one)

- Research conducted by industrial personnel with industry funds ☐
- Research conducted by consultants, universities or other groups with industry funds ☐
- Research conducted by consultants, universities or other groups with county, state or federal funds ☐

D 10. Are you satisfied with the present status of Montana's mining reclamation program?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

D 11. Do you favor additional mining controls?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

D 12. Do you favor increased taxes to provide and enforce additional mining controls?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

D 13. Montana has the highest coal severance tax in the nation for strip mined coal. Which of the following most closely states your feelings about the severance tax? (Choose one)

- The coal severance tax should be increased. ☐
- The coal severance tax should not be changed ☐
- The coal severance tax should be lowered ☐
- No opinion ☐

D 14. Should Montana's laws and policies govern development of federally-owned lands and minerals (excluding Indian reservations) within Montana's borders?

Yes, Montana laws and policies should apply ☐
No, federal laws and policies should apply ☐
No opinion ☐

D 15. Higher prices may force people to save more energy. Which do you think would be the better way to force people to save energy? (Choose one)

Raise price of many things (food, clothing, heating, gasoline, etc.) a little ☐
Raise price of gasoline a lot ☐

D 16. Based on what you know or have heard, how much do the schools emphasize energy conservation?
Great deal ☐ Fair amount ☐ Not too much ☐ Not at all ☐ Don't know ☐

D 17. If you have children in high school, have they brought home from school any lists of items, information, or tips on how to save energy (in your home or in using your car)?
Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know ☐ Have no children in high school ☐

D 18. If the Federal Government were to give back one-fourth of the cost, how likely is it that you would buy attic insulation within the next three months? (Choose one)
Very likely ☐ Fairly likely ☐ Not too likely ☐ Have adequate insulation ☐

HIGHWAYS

H 1. If the federal government reduces the amount of money they spend in supporting the Montana highway system, which of the following actions should the State of Montana take? (Choose one)

Use what money is available for maintenance only ☐
Support current maintenance level plus limited construction by raising additional money ☐
Continue highway maintenance and construction at current levels by raising additional money ☐

H 2. If the state must raise additional money to support the Montana highway program, which method would you most prefer? (Choose one)

Raise state fuel taxes ☐
Sell state level bond issues to finance the program ☐
Sell local level bond issues to finance the program in that locality ☐

H 3. It has been estimated that it would cost one billion dollars to complete the interstate system within Montana and bring our primary highway system up to modern standards. If current formulas for federal support are maintained, should Montana raise the gasoline tax 2¢/gallon to pay their share of this program and insure maximum federal support?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

AGRICULTURE, LAND USE, AND WATER RIGHTS

A 1. We would like your opinion about each of the following statements.

	Agree	Unsure	Disagree	No Opinion
A Montana lands should be preserved for food production as opposed to living space or recreational use	☐	☐	☐	☐
B There should be greater land use planning by government	☐	☐	☐	☐
C Land should be used for whatever use provides the greatest economic benefits	☐	☐	☐	☐
D There should be expanded amounts of capital available to groups of family farmers for financing development of facilities to market or process their production	☐	☐	☐	☐
E There should be a state program to assist persons to enter family farming and ranching by renting state owned land to them, by assisting in rent payments for a few early start-up years, and by providing low interest financing for land purchases	☐	☐	☐	☐

A 2. Do you favor a national agricultural program which provides for the stockpiling of food to guard against future shortages or needs?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

A 3 Many livestock producers are caught in an extreme cost/price squeeze. Would you favor the following programs as possible remedies to this situation?

	Yes	No	No Opinion
A Federal purchases of agricultural products	☐	☐	☐
B Controlled production	☐	☐	☐
C More restrictive import quotas	☐	☐	☐
D More agricultural loan programs	☐	☐	☐
E More comprehensive federally funded school and institution food programs	☐	☐	☐

A 4 Do you feel the rail transportation systems to rural areas should be federally subsidized if necessary to insure adequate transportation for agricultural products?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

A 5 Do you feel that local government should become involved in more state water planning programs?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

A 6. Where do you think funding for local water planning should come from? (Choose one)
Federal level ☐ State level ☐ Both ☐ Neither ☐

A 7 How much priority should each of the following water uses be given?

	High priority	Moderate priority	Low priority	No priority
A Agriculture	☐	☐	☐	☐
B Domestic	☐	☐	☐	☐
C Mining	☐	☐	☐	☐
D Industry	☐	☐	☐	☐
E Fish and Wildlife	☐	☐	☐	☐
F Municipal	☐	☐	☐	☐
G Recreational	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other (specify) _____	☐	☐	☐	☐

A 8 Do you feel a high priority should be placed on determining water rights in all areas of the state?
Yes ☐ No ☐ No opinion ☐

A 9. Indicate which of the following most closely represents your position concerning the hunting of Montana's game animals (Choose one)

A I am a hunter	☐
B I do not hunt but do not oppose it	☐
C I object to hunting because of poor experiences with hunters	☐
D I object to hunting because of other reasons	☐

A 10. Do you make special efforts or trips just to observe wildlife?
Yes ☐ No ☐

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

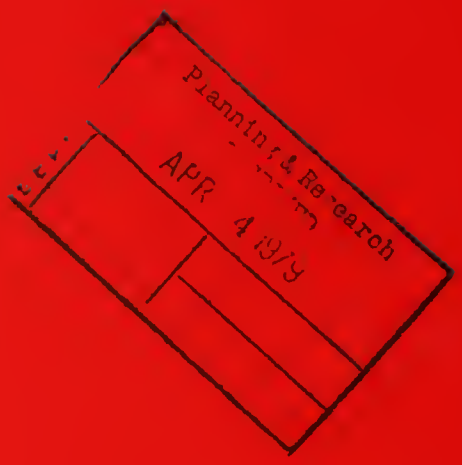
1. Sex Male ☐ Female ☐

2. The name of the county I live in is _____

3. The area I live in is.
Urban ☐ Suburban ☐ Rural ☐

4. My age is in the following bracket.
25 or under ☐ 26-45 ☐ 46-65 ☐ over 65 ☐

5. Choose the category which best identifies your occupation:
Housewife ☐ Student ☐ Retired ☐ Labor ☐ Agriculture ☐
Business ☐ Government ☐ Professional & Technical ☐ Forestry, Mining, Natural Resources ☐


Planning & Research
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